

# LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

## MINUTES – June 17, 2021 Meeting

*As transcribed by Mary E. Lee DiLeo, Certified Court Reporter*

### COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr., *Chairman*

Louis Reine, *First Vice Chair*

Dr. Patrick Bernard, *Second Vice Chair*

Leslie M. Bouie

Thomas B. Calvert

Lane T. Cortez

Donald "Don" Cravins

Eddie J. Delahoussaye

K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.

Mike R. McHalfey

Deano Thornton

### ABSENT

Roy Griggs

The meeting of the Louisiana State Racing Commission (LSRC) was called to order by the Chairman on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM in Mojo's Sports Bar at Evangeline Downs Racetrack & Casino, 2235 Creswell Lane Extension, Opelousas, LA and on Zoom Conference Call. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present.

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Commissioner Reine motions to approve the meeting minutes from the March 30, 2021 and April 23, 2021 meetings; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries.

## I. ASSOCIATION REQUESTS

### A. BOYD RACING, LLC d/b/a DELTA DOWNS RACETRACK, CASINO & HOTEL

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren, Director of Racing*. Mr. Warren informs that Delta Downs' 46-day 2021 Quarter Horse Meet started on May 10, 2021 and will end on July 31, 2021. He states that Sam Houston Race Park doubled its purses and has been in direct competition with Delta Downs. He says that their handle is down about 10% but that the Lee Berwick trials and other major stakes races are coming up, so hopefully Delta Downs can improve. He informs that the quarter horse population has declined, so it has been difficult to fill races. He states that the new lighting system is still on track to be ready before the October 13, 2021 opening date for thoroughbred racing. He states that their 84-day 2020-2021 Thoroughbred Meet ended with almost \$1,700,000 average handle. He says that they will run two daytime race cards and two nighttime race cards per week for the upcoming 84-day 2021-2022 Thoroughbred Meet.

#### a. **Update** on the status of Delta Downs OTBs.

Mr. Warren informs that Delta Downs currently has no OTBs but is looking forward to possibly open OTBs in the future.

**B. THE OLD EVANGELINE DOWNS, LLC**

**d/b/a EVANGELINE DOWNS RACETRACK & CASINO**

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Chris Warren, Director of Racing*. Mr. Warren informs that Evangeline Downs' 84-day 2021 Thoroughbred Meet started on August 28, 2021 and will end on September 18, 2021. He states that the low horse population has made it tough to fill races. He says that handle is down 15% compared to 2020 when they had no competition during the pandemic but that handle is up 11% compared to the normal meet in 2019. He informs that Evangeline Downs' watering issues will be dealt with to satisfy the horsemen and that Mr. Ed Fenasci, Executive Director of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (LaHBPA), informs him that the horsemen were praising Evangeline Downs this morning. He states that they are installing two new cameras for the turf course head-on shots on the backside and for the stretch, which will be done after the current meet ends.

Commissioner Reine asks if the horses are filling the races that were in the condition book. Mr. Warren responds that they have been hit-or-miss on filling their races because their horse population has been limited to the horses staying on their backside and horses from Copper Crowne.

Commissioner Cravins asks for Boyd Gaming to provide the proper management representative to answer his questions concerning Evangeline Downs' operations and investment in Evangeline Downs and the local and racing communities. The Chairman requests that Commissioner Cravins and a subcommittee of Commissioners set up a meeting with Boyd Gaming representatives to discuss the collection of issues that have been brought to their attention and then provide a presentation of Boyd Gaming's responses to the full Commission.

**a. Update on the status of Evangeline Downs OTBs.**

Mr. Warren informs that the St. Martinville and Henderson OTBs are doing well and that they are planning to reopen the Eunice OTB before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

The Chairman requests that each of the racetracks and any willing Commissioners conduct in-person inspections of the OTBs to make sure that the machines and video monitors are working and to gauge the staffing patterns in order to see how well the OTBs are functioning. He also requests that the racetracks make sure that their gate crews are uniformly in the proper colors of the racetracks to make sure that the Louisiana racing products look professional in their video signals to the country and the world.

**C. CHURCHILL DOWNS LOUISIANA HORSERACING COMPANY, LLC**

**d/b/a FAIR GROUNDS RACE COURSE & SLOTS**

1. **PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Jason Boulet, Senior Director of Racing*. Mr. Boulet informs that Fair Grounds will make every effort during the short turn-around time to get the turf course prepared and renovated for racing after the October 2021 Jazz Fest for their upcoming 80-day 2021-2022 Thoroughbred Meet. He announces that Fair Grounds will hold two new 2-year-old races on December 26, 2021 that will offer 17 points per race as part of the Road to the Kentucky Derby to replace Delta Downs' Jackpot Stakes and Princess Stakes. He says that Fair Grounds will also name a race in the memory of Bob Wright, Former LSRC Chairman. The Chairman thanks Fair Grounds for that.

Mr. Boulet informs that Fair Grounds will have challenges in running an 80-day thoroughbred race schedule without the turf course for an unknown period of time. He states that there will be challenging competition from Oaklawn Park and Delta Downs overlapping thoroughbred race dates. He says that turf renovations have gone well and that they have sent monthly progress pictures to the Commission and LaHBPA.

**a. Update on the status of Fair Grounds OTBs.**

Mr. David Waguespack, Counsel for Fair Grounds, informs that he has applications for three new OTBs to open in LaPlace, Slidell, and Covington and requests the Commission to approve those for licensing.

Mr. Brett Bonin, Counsel for LSRC, informs that Fair Grounds' applications for the three new OTBs have been completed and all information required by the Rules has been submitted, and the applications are before the Commission to approve.

Commissioner Cortez motions to approve the applications for licensing; Commissioner Reine seconds; motion carries.

Commissioner Reine asks when the OTBs are expected to open. Mr. Waguespack responds that Fair Grounds is trying to open them by July 1, 2021.

**2021-2022 THOROUGHBRED MEET**

**2. REQUEST BY CHURCHILL DOWNS LOUISIANA HORSERACING COMPANY, LLC TO ADD RACING DATES TO MEET APPROVED ON APRIL 23, 2021 (R.S. 4:158A) AS SHOWN ON AGENDA.**

Mr. Boulet informs that Fair Grounds is applying for the added dates with the start date of December 2, 2021. He requests, if the LaHBPA wants any changes to the requested dates, that they state their desired changes on the record. Mr. Ron Faucheux, LaHBPA Board Member, informs that the LaHBPA Board has voted unanimously to request that the Fair Grounds start its meet on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2021 in the best interest of the horsemen. Mr. Boulet states that Fair Grounds would agree to amend its racing dates to start on Thanksgiving Day as requested and end on March 27, 2021. He says that Jazz Fest will be off the property by November 1, 2021 and that Fair Grounds will not allow training on its property until November 22, 2021. Mr. Faucheux and Mr. Fenasci agree to the terms.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve Fair Grounds' verbal amendments to race 80 thoroughbred race dates from November 25, 2021 through March 27, 2021 with specific race dates to be submitted to the Commission Office; Commissioner Cravins seconds; motion carries

**D. HARRAH'S BOSSIER CITY INVESTMENT COMPANY, LLC  
d/b/a HARRAH'S LOUISIANA DOWNS**

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT**, by Mr. Joe Morris, Senior Vice President of Racing. Mr. Dan Real, Regional President for Caesars Entertainment, states that he will takes any questions from the Commission and introduces Mr. Morris for the progress report. Mr. Morris informs that Louisiana Downs has run 27 days of its 84-day 2021 Thoroughbred Meet, which started on May 1, 2021. He states that they have been off of the turf course for 19 of those days due to the ongoing rain. He says that they have an average of 7.4 scratches per day. He informs that the handle is even. He states that they raised purses by \$1,000

per class at the beginning of the meet and that they are averaging \$100,000 in purses per day. He says that they are working with the horsemen to add a state-bred race day in August.

Mr. Morris informs that Louisiana Downs honored first responders on its opening race day on May 1, 2021. He says that their exotic animal race day drew nearly 5,500 fans, and that they are planning a big give-away for Father's Day. He states that they have food trucks every Sunday and have been drawing local families back to the racetrack with Family Fun Days every Sunday. He informs that their recent capital work includes a whole new fence line built, a lot of asphalt work done in the barn area, created driveways into all their manure bins, gutter repair work, refreshed the paddock and backside road. He states that they have spent about \$350,000 on work on the back stretch.

**a. Update on the status of Louisiana Downs OTBs.**

Mr. Morris informs that Louisiana Downs' OTB in Mounds is open Thursdays through Sundays. He says that they have an OTB Manager working there, and they outsource the OTB's housekeeping, food and beverage, and security officers. He states that there is not a lot of population there and competition with Mississippi casinos. He says that they are forecasting the OTB's 2021 handle to be about \$3,000,000.

Commissioner McHalfey asks if there are any plans to expand Louisiana Downs' OTB program. Mr. Real responds that Caesars Entertainment has a master plan that includes additional OTB but that they are in a state of limbo with a pending sale looming. Commissioner McHalfey offers to help Louisiana Downs with getting OTB referendums on any parish ballots.

## **II. BREEDER UPDATES**

### **A. LOUISIANA THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LTBA)**

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Roger Heitzmann, Secretary-Treasurer*. Mr. Heitzmann informs that LTBA will be putting together its stallion awards with \$900,000 being sent out to Louisiana stallion owners. He says that Legends Night at Evangeline Downs was successful and drew their best crowd this year. He states that they are trying to bring back Louisiana Cup Day this year at Louisiana Downs. He announces that LTBA will have a horse mixed sale of thoroughbreds and yearlings on October 2, 2021 at the Equine Center in Opelousas. He informs that LTBA is working on a new computer system that will help it better interact with its members and distribute information more efficiently. He states that they are working with Fair Grounds to set dates for Louisiana Champion's Day and Louisiana Futurity.

### **B. LOUISIANA QUARTER HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (LQHBA)**

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT**, by *Mr. Bruce Salard, Executive Director*. Mr. Salard informs that LQHBA's Yearling Sale will be held on August 6 and 7, 2021 at Coushatta Casino in Kinder, Louisiana with 587 yearlings currently cataloged. He states that their foal crop was strong with over 1,000 foals born in 2020 and that 282 two-year-olds will be eligible for the Lee Berwick Futurity trials at Delta Downs to be held on July 10, 2021.

Commissioner Reine asks when the LQHBA is planning to request Commission approval on requiring hair testing for its nomination blanks. Mr. Salard responds that he will send a letter to the Commission to request it. The Chairman states that the

Commission will ask the Attorney General for an opinion on whether the Commission needs to approve or sanction LQHBA's hair testing requirement since it is part of a contract between LQHBA and participants.

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Commissioner Reine asks where the LSU Lab is on accreditation. Dr. Dirikolu, Director of LSU's Equine Medical Surveillance Laboratory, responds that the lab is accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) for ISO 17025, which will be reviewed for renewal in October. He states that the lab is planning to apply for Racing Medication & Testing Consortium (RMTC) accreditation in January or February of 2022. He says that the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020 may require International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) accreditation rather than RMTC, so they are monitoring any changes in requirements.

Commissioner Reine asks if the lab has the ability to perform hair testing. Dr. Dirikolu responds that they are not currently set up for hair testing and that it would require a lot of research to see whether or not the lab will be able to perform regular hair testing.

Commissioner Reine asks how the lab will address getting samples from trial races processed in a timely manner to avoid incidents like in the past in which futurity races were affected by late sample notifications. Dr. Dirikolu responds that the previous incident happened because the lab had one week to process 60 priority samples, which requires time-consuming database entry, testing, and analysis to complete. The Chairman states that the Commission staff will send the futurity trial samples to the lab in a more expedited basis through a special courier and asks if there is anything else the Commission can do to alleviate this problem to avoid future incidents. Dr. Dirikolu requests that the Commission staff communicate deadlines for test results of priority samples so that the lab can arrange their testing more adequately. The Chairman requests Commission staff to facilitate better communication to the lab about priority sample test result deadlines.

The Chairman requests that Dr. Dirikolu work with Commissioner Bernard to discuss and work out the logistics on instituting hair testing in the lab in case it is needed in the future.

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### **III. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **A. MEDICATION COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Patrick Bernard**

Commissioner Bernard informs that he would like to explore the possibility of rule-making for positive tests on horses with non-therapeutic medication that have no tolerance level. He proposes that the horses get 60 days on the Vet's List and would need to provide a negative blood drug test to get off the list in order to avoid those horses racing with the same possible unfair advantage under other trainers. Commissioner Delahoussaye asks if this would include thoroughbred and quarter horses. Commissioner Bernard says it would include both breeds.

#### **B. RULES COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Lane T. Cortez**

Commissioner Cortez informs that he will present rules for discussion and possible Notice of Intent later in the Agenda.

**C. LEGAL COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Thomas B. Calvert**

No Report.

**D. SECURITY COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Louis Reine**

Commissioner Reine informs that the Security Committee met yesterday with Representatives from Racing Associations and Louisiana State Police. He states that they would like to address the continuity of rules between the racetracks. He requests that the Racing Commission staff gather the rules from each of the Racing Associations to be put in a comparable format and meet with State Police to discuss how best to unify the rules to enforce consistently at all of the Louisiana racetracks.

Commissioner Reine requests that Racing Commission staff develop a training manual that describes the basics of horse racing and enforcement duties for the State Police to better deal with turnover of their staff. He says that there should also be consistent communication between the Commission and racetrack security staff about when individuals are ruled off by the Commission and its staff in order to better guide security on who to keep off the racetrack grounds, particularly the backside. He states that there also needs to be a standard procedure and requirements developed to indicate who is allowed on the backside without a license.

**E. RACETRACK/HBPA LIAISON COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Donald "Don" Cravins**

No Report.

**F. FINANCE COMMITTEE, by Committee Chair Leslie Bouie**

Commissioner Bouie thanks her fellow Finance Committee members for agreeing to serve with her. She informs that she met with Mr. Charles Gardiner III, LSRC Executive Director, and Commission staff at the Commission's Headquarters Office, during which she toured the facility and was provided a high-level overview of the Commission's sources and uses of funds. She states that the Finance Committee will review the finances at a more detailed level and provide a status report on the Commission's finances at a future meeting.

**IV. RULES**

**A. DISCUSSION/NOTICES OF INTENT:**

**1. LAC 35:I Chapter 3 – General Rules**

*§309. Protective Helmets and Safety Vests [amend]*

Commissioner Cortez informs that this Rule was drafted due to people on horseback at the racetracks not wearing helmets and vests. Commissioner Reine and the Chairman request that there should be additional verbiage to indicate that related fines will be decided at the discretion of the Stewards and/or the Racing Commission. Mr. Brett Bonin, Attorney for LSRC, agrees to add the verbiage for the Notice of Intent submission.

Commissioner Thornton motions to approve for Notice of Intent; Commissioner Cortez seconds; motion carries.

2. LAC 35:1 Chapter 15 – Permitted Medication

*§1506. Permitted Medications in Quarter Horses [amend]*

Mr. Salard introduces Ms. Janet VenBebber, Racing Director of the American Quarter Horse Association. Ms. VanBebber requests that the Commission adopts the ban on Albuterol in order to conform with neighboring racing jurisdictions to better regulate the sport and because cumulative administration of the drug can enhance performance similarly to how a steroid does. She states that she supports hair testing, which is the best mechanism to determine if cumulative administration has been given.

Commissioner Reine asks how long would it take a horse that has been given Albuterol to pass a hair test. Ms. VanBebber responds that a hair test can detect certain substances for up to six months. Commissioner Reine states that the horsemen should be given adequate notice to allow their horses to get Albuterol completely out of their system.

Mr. Salard informs that LQHBA wants to adopt hair testing starting in November or December of 2022 for their futurities.

Commissioner Bouie asks if Albuterol has useful properties as a medication that should negate banning the substance from use in horses and if there are acceptable replacement medications. Commissioner Bernard responds that Albuterol can be used as a therapeutic medication but that there is a problem of horsemen using it as an anabolic steroid for their racehorses. He says that if a horse needs to be given Albuterol legitimately, then the horse shouldn't be running at that time anyway.

Mr. Kenneth Roberts, an LSRC-Licensed Quarter Horse Trainer, states that he is against banning Albuterol but that he understands that banning it is a necessity to clean up horseracing. Commissioner Reine asks if 8 months, including 60 days notification plus a 6-month period prior to formal adoption, will be enough time. Mr. Roberts responds that it should be. Mr. Benard Chatters, President of LaHBPA, states that Albuterol is a commonly-used medication among humans, so environmental contamination should be a consideration in discussing hair testing.

Ms. Barbara Alcantara, LSRC-licensed Quarter Horse Trainer, states that there are more problematic drugs that aren't getting caught by hair testing and need to be dealt with rather than Albuterol. Commissioner Delahoussaye requests that Mr. Alcantara find out the names of the drugs to which she is referring and notify the Commission so they it can take action.

Commissioner Reine asks how the lab can target and discover new substances being used for unfair racing advantages. Dr. Dirikolu responds that their lab tests do catch various new substances from horse samples but that they must be notified when those substances should trigger a positive test, whether for any amount or for specific threshold levels. Commissioner Reine says that the lab should be vigilant to expand its scope of testing for new substances. Dr. Dirikolu responds that the lab has membership in the Association of Official Racing Chemists, which provides an annual report about positive substance testings from all of the labs around the world including drugs that may be of concern. He states that the horsemen should also provide information to the lab about rumored substances being used.

Commissioner Bernard informs that hair testing has several variables, including the hair melanin and length, which would not make it a total solution to drug-testing issues.

The Chairman states that, if this Notice of Intent passes, there should be a 2-month window from today through August 17, 2021 during which the state vets will send out notices about the rule change and the effective date of the ban of Albuterol would be December 17, 2021.

Commissioner Bernard motions to approve for Notice of Intent; Commissioner Delahoussaye seconds; motion passes.

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A 15-minute recess is taken.

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3. LAC 35:VII Chapter 85 – Colors

*§8501. Supplied and Registered [amend]*

*§8509. Exceptions [amend]*

*§8511. Responsibility for Wearing Correct Colors [amend]*

Commissioner Reine motions to approve §8501, §8509, and §8511 for Notice of Intent; Commissioner Bernard seconds; motion passes.

4. LAC 35:XI Chapter 99 – Claiming Rule

*§9902. Declaring a Horse Ineligible to be Claimed at Time of Entry [new]*

*§9911. Claiming Procedures [amend]*

*§9913. Vesting of Title; Tests [amend]*

*§9914. Voided and Voidable Claims [new]*

Commissioner Cortez informs that the Fair Grounds and LaHBPA requested rulemaking regarding waiver claiming, which is drafted as §9902.

Commissioner Reine motions to approve §9902 for Notice of Intent; Commissioner Thornton seconds; motion passes.

Commissioner Cortez informs that the voided claiming rules, including §9911, §9913, and §9914, are controversial and that the LaHBPA representatives wanted to remove some of the drafted language. He states that, in the current draft of the rules, the only time that a horse can be voided of claim is if a horse suffers a fatality during the running of a race, dies or is euthanized before leaving the track, or if the state veterinarian determines that the horse will be placed on the vet's list before the horse is released to the successful claimant.

Commissioner Bouie asks what happened to necessitate the creation of these voided claiming rules. Commissioner Cortez responds that an owner or trainer may try to put an unsound horse at a lesser claiming price, which this would help prevent. He states that this has happened in the past and other states have adopted rules dealing with this issue. Commissioner Calvert informs that this has been a trend across racetracks around the United States and that he has spoke with trainers who support this change who were initially against it. He states that this change would better protect equine athletes and their jockeys from potential catastrophic injury in claiming races.



Commissioner Bouie asks if partial reduction of the claim price rather than completely voiding a claim would be a more equitable solution for both the buyer and the seller, who has invested the money to get the horse prepared for the claiming race and may not have prior knowledge that their horse was unsound. Commissioner Calvert acknowledges that the rule would be imperfect in those instances but is a necessary tool to disincentivize horsemen from knowingly dumping unsound horses.

Commissioner Reine asks how lame horses could get past the vet exam required prior to the claiming race that would necessitate this rule change. Dr. Matt Cooley, Equine Medical Director of LSRC, responds that it is impossible for vets to declare whether a horse is totally sound in a pre-race exam due to race day time limitations. He states that vets are specifically declaring that a horse is fit to run in a pre-race exam.

Commissioner Calvert motions to approve §9911, §9913, and §9914 for Notice of Intent; Commissioner Delahoussaye seconds; motion does not carry.

Mr. Chatters requests that the Commission postpone voting on this rule change until the next Commission Meeting so that he can get an official LaHBPA Board position on these rule changes.

Commissioner Reine makes a substitute motion to postpone action on §9911, §9913, and §9914 until the next Commission Meeting; Commissioner Bernard seconds; Poll Vote conducted by Mr. Gardiner, in which Yea means to vote to postpone action on §9911, §9913, and §9914 and Nay means to continue this rule discussion; 8 – Yea, 1 – Nay; motion carries.

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Mr. Arthur Morrell asks when his clients' cases can be heard by the Commission, since their violations have been pending for almost two years. The Chairman responds that the Commission's representative from the Attorney General's Office sent a letter to Mr. Morrell regarding this request prior to this meeting indicating why it was inappropriate for those cases to be a part of today's Agenda. He summarizes that the three reasons are Mr. Morrell's clients' pending criminal charges, the civil lawsuit filed by Mr. Morrell naming the LSRC as a defendant, and the adjudications that would be in front of the Commission. He states that the Commission will consider hearing and taking action on the cases once the district court judge gives further instruction as to how to proceed.

The Chairman requests that Mr. Morrell send the Commission an updated written request to hear his clients' cases and explain his position in writing on how the criminal cases differ from the cases in front of the Commission, including the status of the civil lawsuit.

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## V. LICENSE APPROVALS

### A. REQUESTS FOR REDUCTION OF SENTENCE/REINSTATEMENT

1. **Josue Huitron, Trainer.** Seeking reduction of suspension/reinstatement of license.

Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Commissioner Cravins motions to grant Mr. Huitron a Reduction of Sentence/Reinstatement of License, with suspension to end on July 5, 2021; Commissioner Bouie seconds; motion carries.

2. **Guadalupe A. Lucio, Jr., Jockey.** Seeking reduction of suspension/reinstatement of license.

Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Commissioner Reine motions to reinstate Mr. Lucio’s license in two years and six months from the date of his suspension; Commissioner Reine withdraws his motion in consideration of Commissioner Bouie’s motion.

Commissioner Bouie motions to grant Mr. Lucio a Reduction of Sentence/Reinstatement of License, with suspension to end on June 18, 2021; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries with opposition from Commissioner Calvert.

3. **John Darrell Soileau, Trainer.** Seeking reduction of suspension/reinstatement of license.

Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Commissioner Reine motions to grant Mr. Soileau a Reduction of Sentence/Reinstatement of License, with suspension to end on June 18, 2021; Commissioner Bouie seconds; motion carries with opposition from Commissioners Calvert and Delahoussaye.

## VI. ADJUDICATIONS

### A. CARELESS RIDING APPEALS (LA. REV. STAT. 4:154)

1. **Casey D. Fusilier, Jockey.**

Ruling#ED24339 of 05/19/21 – *Careless Riding.*

*Appeal Withdrawn*

Mr. Fusilier not present for hearing.

Commissioners motion to suspend Mr. Fusilier for 7 calendar days from June 27, 2021 through July 3, 2021; If Mr. Fusilier participates in a designated race day not subject to suspension; he shall be required to make up the suspension day on the first following race day after the designated day of racing; Commissioners second; motion carries.

### B. VIOLATIONS OF LAC 35:I.1797 (Equine Positives)

1. **Shelton J. Zenon, Sr. Trainer.** (*Adjudication Appealed*)

Ruling#LD23863 of 02/12/20 – *Lidocaine (ARCI Category II)*

Commissioner Reine motions to uphold the Stewards’ ruling, suspend Mr. Zenon for 6 months, effective June 26, 2021 through December 25, 2021, and redistribute the purse; Mr. Zenon will be denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

2. **Shelton J. Zenon, Sr. Trainer.** (*Adjudication Appealed*)

Ruling#ED24014 of 08/21/20 – *Acepromazine (ARCI Category III)*

Commissioner Reine motions to uphold the Stewards’ ruling, suspend Mr. Zenon for 90 days to run consecutive to Ruling LD23863, effective December 26, 2021 through March 25, 2022, and redistribute the purse; Mr. Zenon will be denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.

3. **Jorge L. Gonzales, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)  
Ruling#ED23701 of 10/30/19 – *Pyrrrolidinovalerophenone (ARCI Category I)*  
*Continued from January 27, 2020 Commission Meeting*  
Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Case continued to the next in-person Commission Meeting per the Commission’s Order of Continuance.

4. **Adrian E. Huitron, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)  
Ruling#ED24030 of 09/09/20 – *Ambroxol (ARCI Category IV)*  
*(3<sup>rd</sup> offense of ARCI Cat. IV/V within a 12-month period)*

Commissioner Calvert motions to uphold the Stewards’ ruling, fine Mr. Huitron \$1,000, suspend him for 60 days, effective June 24, 2021 through August 28, 2021, and redistribute the purse; Mr. Huitron will be denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioners Bernard and Reine second; motion carries.

5. **Adrian E. Huitron, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)  
Ruling#ED24119 of 12/17/20 – *Phenylbutazone (ARCI Category IV)*  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> offense of ARCI Cat. IV/V within a 12-month period)*

Commissioner Calvert motions to uphold the Stewards’ ruling, fine Mr. Huitron \$1,000, suspend him for 60 days to run consecutive to Ruling ED24030, effective August 23, 2021 through October 21, 2021, and redistribute the purse; Mr. Huitron will be denied access to all racetracks, off-track wagering facilities and recognized training tracks under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana State Racing Commission; Commissioners Bernard and Reine second; motion carries.

6. **Fructuoso M. Huitron, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Referred*)  
Ruling#DD24004 of 08/06/20 – *Levamisole (ARCI Category II)*  
*Aminorex (ARCI Category I)*

Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Case continued to the next in-person Commission Meeting.

7. **Kenneth D. Weeks, Trainer.** (*Adjudication Appealed*)  
Ruling#LD23784 of 12/30/19 – *Ractopamine (ARCI Category II)*

Attorney – Edmond L. Guidry III, Esq.

Case continued to the next in-person Commission Meeting per the Commission’s Order of Continuance.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Bernard motions to adjourn; Commissioner McHalfey seconds; motion carries.



Charles A. Gardiner III  
Executive Director