

FINES AND SUSPENSIONS BULLETIN

Fri, Sep 26 - Thu, Oct 2

PART ONE

The following action has been taken by the United States Trotting Association. This information is in an abbreviated form.

*** NO RECORDS FOUND ***

PART TWO - MAJOR PENALTIES

The following actions published herein and imposed pursuant to the rules and regulations of the racing commissions of the various states and provinces are given full faith and credit and strictly enforced by the United States Trotting Association consistent with the provisions of USTA Rule 22, Sections 7 and 8 relative to RECIPROCITY OF PENALTIES. The fact that there is no separate action taken by the USTA in the form of a "ruling of reciprocity" shall not be construed as a failure to recognize and/or reciprocate with these published penalties. Please note that the following action is in an abbreviated form and that the USTA is not responsible for the accuracy or timeliness of reported penalties. Further information may be available by contacting the racing commission where the ruling was issued to determine the accuracy of the information.

BERQUIST, SCOTT A

PcD on 4/21/2025

DEXTER, MI

**RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING(RES) AS OF
9/27/2025**

YOB 1967

FAILURE TO OBTAIN PROPER LICENSE

PA Title 7-203.11(e) Scott Berquist has failed to complete licensing requirements in PA for 2025. DARKNSTORMY DEO raced on 4/21/2025 at Pocono Downs. Mr. Berquist is fined \$50 and as of 8/14/2025 is suspended indefinitely and will remain suspended until the fine is paid and licensing requirements have been met.

Status as of 9/27/2025 - Subsequent Ruling - Restored to good standing as of 9/27/2025. PA Title 7-203.11(e) Scott Berquist has paid the fine from ruling #25133PD and has complied with PA licensing requirements. As of 9/27/2025, Mr. Berquist is restored to good standing in PA.

EBERSOLE, LUKE C.

DTN on 9/25/2025

CHESTERVILLE, OH

FINED: \$1,000

YOB 1990

REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO THE BREATH ANALYZER TEST

OSRC 3769-14-22-A. Mr. Ebersole failed to report for the breathalyzer analysis prior to driving in races 11 and 13 on 9/25/25 at Dayton Raceway. Mr. Ebersole is fined \$1000 and given a 10 day full suspension (10/05/25-10/14/25), the penalty will be reduced to just the fine of \$1000 if not appealed, which is due within 10 days of this ruling. Mr. Ebersole has 48 hours to appeal this decision to the OSRC.

LONG, RODNEY M

Har on 9/24/2025

SALISBURY, MD

FINED: \$1,000

YOB 1965

POSITIVE TEST - ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE TEST

Mr. Rodney Long is summarily suspended pending a hearing with the DHRC board of judges at Harrington raceway. Mr. Long is in violation of DHRC rules 5.1.8.2 and 5.1.8.2.5

Status as of 10/1/2025 - Amendment - Mr. Rodney Long is issued a \$1000 fine for refusing to take the oral swab drug test. Mr. Longs license is under a 1 year probationary status. DHRC rule 10.2.7.6 All fines are due within 10 days of this ruling

MAXWELL, PRAVI DTN on 8/27/2025	MACON, MS INDEFINITE SUSPENSION(IND) AS OF 10/3/2025	YOB 1977
<p>FALSIFICATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION</p> <p>OSRC 3769-2-26-A(7), 3769-2-99. Mr. Maxwell is indefinitely suspended and placed on the Stop List in Ohio until he appears before the Judges in Ohio for a hearing regarding the falsification of his 2025 OSRC Owner/Trainer license application, concerning his arrest record.</p>		
PACHECO, CRISTIAN HoP on 9/23/2025	ANDERSON, IN FINED: \$200	YOB 1995
<p>FAILURE TO PASS THE BREATH ANALYZER TEST</p> <p>71 8-11-1(b) Licensee Cristian Pacheco appeared in the paddock in an unfit condition to drive prior to the races at Hoosier Park on September 23, 2025. The judges removed Mr. Pacheco from his drive. For this violation Mr. Pacheco is fined \$200.00 which is due within seven days of this ruling. Mr. Pacheco waived his right to a hearing and accepted the penalty.</p>		
PARKER, JUSTIN S Har on 9/9/2025 OTHER	MONROEVILLE, NJ INDEFINITE SUSPENSION(IND) AS OF 9/30/2025	YOB 1982
<p>Justin Parker is indefinitely suspended as of 9/30/2025 pending a final hearing to be held at a undetermined date.</p>		
RUIZ, MATIAS S YR on 8/21/2025	WIND GAP, PA FINED: \$500 FULL - 3 DAYS, 9/28/2025 THRU 9/30/2025 HORSE DISQUALIFIED - PLACED 8, PURSE REDISTRIBUTION	YOB 1958
<p>POSITIVE TEST- POST RACE</p> <p>On August 21st, 2025 at Yonkers Raceway, Matias Ruiz was trainer of the horse, IM A POWERPLAY A, in the 1st race. Post race analysis of sample CV3619147 showed the presence of METHOCARBAMOL above the threshold permitted by the Commission. IM A POWERPLAY A finished 3rd, and is disqualified and placed 8th. All purse monies earned shall be returned and redistributed, and the horse must submit a negative test prior to entering to race.(negative test submitted). Having appeared before a representative of the NYSGC and waiving his right to a formal hearing and right to appeal, Matias Ruiz is suspended 7 days and fined \$1000.00. The fine is hereby reduced to 3 days full suspension and \$500.00 fine. The suspension shall be served September 28th through and including September 30th, 2025. During the term of suspension, Matias Ruiz is ruled off all grounds under the jurisdiction of the NYSGC and deemed a disqualified person. No trainer transfer of horses in his care will be permitted without the approval of the presiding judge.</p>		
SHAND, ROSS JAMES	PENNS GROVE, NJ	YOB 1968

Har on 9/10/2025

POSITIVE TEST - ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE TEST

Ross Shand is summarily suspended pending a hearing with the DHRC board of judges at Harrington raceway. Mr. Shand did fail a oral drug test.DHRC rule 5.1.8.2.7

Har on 9/10/2025

FINED: \$250

DRIVING - 5 DAYS, 9/24/2025 THRU 9/30/2025

POSITIVE TEST - ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE TEST

Ross Shand agreed to and signed the waiver. Ross Shand was issued a \$250 fine and a 5 day driving suspension. Days are 9/24-25-26-29-30/25

TAYLOR, HOWARD A

PHILADELPHIA, PA

YOB 1959

Har on 10/1/2025

DENIAL(DEN) AS OF 10/1/2025

DENIAL OF LICENSE

After careful consideration, and in accordance with the State of Delaware Administrative Code, Delaware Harness Racing Rules and Regulations, the Delaware Harness Racing Commission ("DHRC") hereby denies Mr. Howard A. Taylor's (DHRC #2578) application for a license. During the course of a thorough review of Mr. Taylor's eligibility for a license, DHRC staff learned that the United States Attorney's office, Southern District of New York, presented evidence in United States v. Navarro, 20 Cr. 160 (MKV) that on multiple occasions Mr. Taylor purchased banned substances from individuals who were convicted in Federal Court with manufacturing and selling performance enhancing drugs. This conduct constitutes a serious violation of DHRC rules which prohibit a licensee from associating, directly or indirectly, with persons whose conduct is detrimental to the best interests of harness racing and who have been convicted of offenses related to the manufacture, distribution, or sale of illegal performance enhancing drugs. 5.1.7 Licensees' Obligation to Protect Horses. Each person licensed by the Commission shall do all that is reasonable and within his power and scope of duty to guard against and prevent the administration of any drug, medication or other substance, including permissible medication in excess of the maximum allowable level, to any horse entered or to be entered in an official workout or race, as prohibited by these rules. The United States Attorney's office, Southern District of New York, described United States v. Navarro, 20 Cr. 160 (MKV), as "a case arising from an investigation of widespread schemes by racehorse trainers, veterinarians, PED distributors, and others to manufacture, distribute, and receive adulterated and misbranded PEDs and to secretly administer those PEDs to racehorses competing at all levels of professional horseracing. By evading PED prohibitions and deceiving drug regulators and horse racing officials, participants in these schemes sought to improve race performance and prize money from racetracks throughout the United States and other countries, including in New York, New Jersey, Florida, Ohio, Kentucky, and the United Arab Emirates ("UAE"), all to the detriment and risk of the health and well-being of the racehorses." The Delaware Harness Racing Commission has a duty and a responsibility to protect the health and welfare of Standardbred horses who race at Baily's Dover Downs and at Harrington Raceway & Casino; to protect the safety of drivers and all human participants; and to ensure the integrity of harness racing and wagering in the State. Mr. Taylor may reapply

for a license on or after October 1, 2035. All transfers of horses must be approved by the Presiding Judge.

By order of the Delaware Harness Racing Commission.

THOMAS, RUSSELL R JR

SEAFORD, DE

YOB 1960

Nfld on 8/9/2025

FINED: \$250

FALSIFICATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION

Mr. Thomas falsified his 2025 OSRC license application by failing to list his prior arrest record. Mr. Thomas waived his right to a hearing and is hereby fined \$500. The penalty will be reduced to a fine of \$250 if not appealed. O.S.R.C.-3769-2-26 (A) (7) The fine must be paid by 9/19/25.

WEAVER, ROSY E

BEACH CITY, OH

YOB 1986

ScD on 7/31/2025

FINED: \$500

**HORSE DISQUALIFIED - PLACED 8, PURSE
REDISTRIBUTION**

POSITIVE TEST- POST RACE

OSRC 3769-18-01-A(1,10,13,15,16), 3769-18-02, 3769-17-43. Blood sample #931850 was tested by the Ohio Department of Agriculture ATL and was found to contain Flunixin, a Class 4 drug, at a concentration of 63.2 nanograms per milliliter of plasma, which exceeds the Regulatory threshold of 20 nanograms per milliliter of plasma that was adopted by the OSRC. Blood sample #931850 was provided by #4 Princess Karolyn, who finished 2nd in race 3 on 7/31/25 at Scioto Downs, and was trained by Ms. Weaver. #4 is disqualified and placed 8th. This is Ms. Weaver's first medication violation in the last 365 days. Ms. Weaver waived her rights to a hearing, a Split sample and DNA testing, after previously requesting a split sample. Ms. Weaver is fined \$1000, the penalty will be reduced to \$500 if not appealed, which is due within 10 days of this ruling. The purse earnings (\$13,875) are to be returned to Scioto Downs within 10 days of this ruling, and to be redistributed accordingly. Ms. Weaver has 48 hours to appeal this decision to the OSRC.

PART THREE - WHIPPING VIOLATIONS

BERRY, PATRICK D

HARRINGTON, DE

YOB 1976

Har on 9/24/2025

FINED: \$100

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP

All fines are due within 10 days of this ruling

CRUSE, BRANDON

MILFORD, DE

YOB 1994

PHL on 9/25/2025

FINED: \$200

EXCESSIVE OR INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WHIP

PA Code Title 7-205.409(c) Brandon Cruse did have an exaggerated whipping motion not restricted to elbow and wrist action only and did raise his arm above shoulder height in the

the stretch while driving #5 HEZA REAL DIAMOND in the 2nd race on 9/25/25 at Harrah's Philadelphia Racetrack. Mr. Cruse is fined \$200 fines are due within 10 days of this ruling 10/6/25.

DAVIS, ERIC E	HARTLY, DE	YOB 1996
Har on 9/23/2025	FINED: \$100	
INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP		
Mr. Davis did use the whip inappropriately while driving #7 Dance With Tabby		

DONOWAY, DECLAN S	SALISBURY, MD	YOB 2000
Wdstk on 9/27/2025	FINED: \$100	
INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP		
Driver Declan Donoway is fined \$100.00 for one-handed whipping before the ¾ pole, using more than wrist action with minimal elbow movement, while driving DRINKSWITHTHECAPTN in 11th race on September 27th, 2025 at Shenandoah Downs. All fines are due within 10 days of the ruling or the Virginia Racing Commission licensee will be suspended until payment is received. 11VAC10-150-90		

GASBARRO, LOUIS A III	SANFORD, ME	YOB 1978
CUMB on 9/22/2025	FINED: \$200	
EXCESSIVE OR INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WHIP		

GERRY, PETER G	CAMPBELL HALL, NY	YOB 1945
TgDn on 9/6/2025	FINED: \$250	
	DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/24/2025 THRU 9/26/2025	
EXCESSIVE OR INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WHIP		
Peter Gerry, while driving #2 MR GRANT in race 11 at Tioga Downs on Saturday, September 13, 2025 was in violation of the whipping rule by using the whip more than three times in succession without giving the horse a chance to respond. This is Mr. Gerry's second whipping violation in the last 365 days and he is hereby fined \$250 for this infraction and suspended from driving for three days, from September 24, 2025 through and including September 26, 2025. Further violations will result in increased penalties.		

MILLER, TYLER J	CREAM RIDGE, NJ	YOB 1998
TgDn on 9/18/2025	FINED: \$250	
	DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/22/2025 THRU 9/24/2025	
EXCESSIVE OR INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WHIP		

MORAND, JAMES A	DOVER, DE	YOB 1964
Har on 9/23/2025	FINED: \$100	
INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP		

SHEHAN, TYLER G	HOPKINSVILLE, KY	YOB 1982
Wdstk on 9/28/2025	FINED: \$100	

FAILURE TO KEEP A LINE IN EACH HAND

Driver Tyler Shehan is fined \$100.00 for failure to keep a line in each hand in the stretch and through the wire while driving VICKY EVERYDAY in the 14th race on September 28th, 2025 at Shenandoah Downs. All fines are due within 10 days of the ruling or the Virginia Racing Commission licensee will be suspended until payment is received. 11VAC10-150-90.

PART FOUR - MINOR PENALTIES

BERRY, PATRICK D Har on 9/22/2025 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	HARRINGTON, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 1976
BRADLEY, VINCENT S Har on 9/24/2025 LATE TO THE LASIX/ DETENTION BARN	LAUREL, DE FINED: \$200	YOB 1962
BROWN, BEAU M Nfld on 9/27/2025 FAILURE TO KEEP BOTH FEET IN THE STIRRUPS	OSTRANDER, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1993
BUFORD, ARCHIE N Wdstk on 9/27/2025 INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK	TERRY, MS FINED: \$150 HORSE PLACED 8	YOB 1986
BURKE, RONALD J HoP on 9/19/2025 FAILURE TO HAVE HORSE PROPERLY EQUIPPED	CANONSBURG, PA FINED: \$500	YOB 1969
BURKS, RONALD LAMAR HoP on 9/26/2025 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	CYPRESS, TX FINED: \$100	YOB 1974
BURTON, JEFFERY A DTN on 9/26/2025 FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION	MIDDLETOWN, OH FINED: \$300	YOB 1988
CALLAHAN, WALTER O Har on 9/23/2025 LATE TO THE LASIX/ DETENTION BARN	CLAYTON, DE FINED: \$200	YOB 1951
COPELAND, VINCENT J Har on 9/23/2025	HARRINGTON, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 1961

FAILURE TO KEEP BOTH FEET IN THE STIRRUPS

CRISSMAN, TIM D Har on 9/29/2025 OTHER	DOVER, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 1960
DILLON, BRITNEY L PcD on 9/9/2025 DELAYING THE START	GREENVILLE, MI FINED: \$250	YOB 1980
FARMER, WYATT M Nfld on 9/24/2025 JOSTLE, STRIKE OR HOOK WHEELS	TOLEDO, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 2005
FINN, JARED D HoP on 9/13/2025 FAILURE TO COME UP/STAY IN POSITION	NEWTON, IL FINED: \$100	YOB 1987
GALLIERS, BRADY E DTN on 9/25/2025 IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF ANOTHER HORSE	DEFIANCE, OH FINED: \$200 HORSE PLACED 5	YOB 1995
GINGRAS, YANNICK PRc on 9/30/2025 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	ALLENTOWN, NJ FINED: \$100	YOB 1979
GIVENS, MELVIN WAYNE Har on 9/24/2025 FAILURE TO WEAR A PROTECTIVE VEST	SEAFORD, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 1950
GREEN, CLIFTON C PcD on 9/23/2025 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	EAST EARL, PA FINED: \$200	YOB 1963
HALL, TONY A DTN on 9/27/2025 INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK	PARIS, KY FINED: \$350 HORSE PLACED 9	YOB 1978
HANLEY, SHAWN P Har on 9/24/2025 LATE TO THE LASIX/ DETENTION BARN	FELTON, DE FINED: \$200	YOB 1957
HARP, RONALD G	ONEIDA, NY	YOB 1956

VD on 9/26/2025	DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/27/2025 THRU 9/29/2025 HORSE PLACED 8	
INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK		
JOHNSON, WHITNEY R Nfld on 9/24/2025	NORTHFIELD, OH FINED: \$250	YOB 1992
PARTICIPATING WITHOUT A VALID LICENSE		
KAKALEY, MATTHEW DON TgDn on 9/19/2025	MOUNTAIN TOP, PA DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/24/2025 THRU 9/26/2025 HORSE PLACED 6	YOB 1988
CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE		
KASH, KEITH J JR DTN on 9/26/2025	MEDINA, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1979
INACCURATE PROGRAM INFORMATION		
KEPPLER, SCOTT V MR on 9/25/2025	RIDGEFIELD, CT DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 10/13/2025 THRU 10/15/2025	YOB 1966
INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK		
LEMS, CHRISTOPHER E DTN on 9/26/2025	STOW, OH FINED: \$200	YOB 1986
FAILURE TO MAINTAIN REASONABLE CONTROL OF THE HORSE		
MCNAIR, DOUGLAS R PcD on 8/16/2025	PUSLINCH, ON FINED: \$200	YOB 1989
FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED		
MERTON, GREGORY TgDn on 9/18/2025	MONTICELLO, NY DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/26/2025 THRU 9/28/2025 HORSE PLACED 7	YOB 1973
INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK		
MERTON, MICHAEL J TgDn on 9/19/2025	MONTICELLO, NY FINED: \$100 HORSE PLACED 3	YOB 1971
INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION		
MICALLEF, MICHAEL L DTN on 9/30/2025	LEBANON, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1973
FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED		
MILLER, ERVIN M DTN on 10/1/2025	WIND GAP, PA FINED: \$100	YOB 1966

FAILURE TO HAVE HORSE PROPERLY EQUIPPED

MILLER, MARCUS DREW HoP on 9/25/2025 FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED	STROUDSBURG, PA FINED: \$200	YOB 1989
MOORE, JASON E DTN on 10/1/2025 FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION	JEFFERSONVILLE, OH FINED: \$300	YOB 1970
O'MARA, DANIEL J DTN on 9/30/2025 FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION	GREENVILLE, OH FINED: \$300	YOB 1955
PAGE, CHRIS L HoP on 9/19/2025 COMING TO THE GATE OUT OF POSITION	DELAWARE, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1983
PAQUET, FERNAND A JR MR on 9/17/2025 CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE	MIDDLETOWN, NY DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 9/24/2025 THRU 9/26/2025 HORSE PLACED 5	YOB 1968
PORTER, JAMES TRAE Har on 9/29/2025 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	SMYRNA, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 2001
PUTNAM, JOSEPH D HoP on 9/26/2025 FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED	MIDDLETOWN, IN FINED: \$200	YOB 1998
ROLAND, WILLIAM R Humb on 9/21/2025 CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE	FLORIS, IA FINED: \$100 HORSE PLACED 2 <i>APPEALED - 9/21/2025</i>	YOB 1983
SCHWARTZ, BEN E J HoP on 9/23/2025 HORSE LATE TO THE Paddock	BLUFFTON, IN FINED: \$200	YOB 1967
SEEKMAN, JOSEPH G HoP on 9/19/2025 HORSE LATE TO THE Paddock	GASTON, IN FINED: \$250	YOB 1964

SUGG, KURT D Nfld on 9/26/2025 CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE	POLK, OH FINED: \$350 HORSE PLACED 7 CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE	YOB 1969
THOMPSON, JASON E Har on 9/29/2025 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	HARTLEY, DE FINED: \$100 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	YOB 1993
WIDGER, SAMUEL D DTN on 10/1/2025 IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF ANOTHER HORSE	CLARKSVILLE, OH FINED: \$200 HORSE PLACED 5 IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF ANOTHER HORSE	YOB 1963