

FINES AND SUSPENSIONS BULLETIN

Fri, Oct 16 - Thu, Oct 22

PART ONE

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

MILLER, MR. ARLIS EUGENE
USTA on 3/24/2026

TOPEKA, IN **YOB 1999**
RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING(RES) AS OF
10/16/2026

USTA MEMBERSHIP ACTION

Membership denied pursuant to the provisions of Article 1, Section 4(a) of the Association bylaws.

Status as of 10/16/2026 - Subsequent Ruling

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.

BLANTON, CHRIS J
HoP on 10/14/2026

CROWLEY, TX **YOB 1996**
FULL - INDEFINITELY AS OF 10/14/2026

FALSIFICATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION

71 IAC 5-1-14(b)(7),(18) On February 17, 2026 licensee Chris Blanton applied for a 2026 Indiana Owner License with the Indiana Horse Racing Commission. On his application Mr. Blanton answered "no" to the question "are there any indictments, complaints, or criminal charges currently pending anywhere against you or your spouse?" A criminal background check showed that Mr. Blanton was charged with criminal offenses in Texas in August 2025. Mr. Blanton was given a phone hearing before the judges on October 14, 2026 where he acknowledged that he failed to list the arrests. Due to the seriousness of the charges that Mr. Blanton is facing, his 2026 IHRC is suspended beginning October 14, 2026 and he will remain suspended pending the outcome of his trial.

CRUSE, BRANDON
Har on 12/3/2025

MILFORD, DE **YOB 1994**

UNPAID OBLIGATION

Brandon cruse is indefinitely suspended for financial irresponsibility. Brandon Cruse has failed to take care of his obligation to Harrington Raceway. Per DHRC rule 5.1.16.1.11 Brandon Cruse is denied access to all facilities governed by the Delaware Harness Racing Commission, until he has satisfied this obligation.

PHL on 10/20/2026

FULL - INDEFINITELY AS OF 10/20/2026
INDEFINITE SUSPENSION(IND) AS OF
10/20/2026

FAILURE TO PAY FINE(S)

PA Code Title 7-179.22 179.38(c) 205.502 Brandon Cruse is issued an indefinite full suspension (starting 10/20/26) for failure to pay fines from rulings 26051CD(\$300) and 26070CD(\$500). Mr. Cruse shall remain under a full suspension until this fine is paid in full. Appeals are due within ten days of this ruling and must be submitted in writing (accompanied by a \$750 bond) to: PSHRC, Bureau of Standardbred Racing. The address is 2301 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA. 17110

DUNNING, BRYSON T
Wdstk on 9/26/2026

CARNEYS POINT, NJ **YOB 2003**
FINED: \$500
HORSE DISQUALIFIED - PLACED 7, PURSE
REDISTRIBUTION

POSITIVE TEST- POST RACE

Trainer Bryson Dunning was the trainer of record for the horse LEROY GIBBS in the tenth race on September 26, 2026, at Shenandoah Downs. Post-race analysis of blood sample #E724633 taken from LEROY GIBBS identified the presence of methocarbamol (Robaxin) at a concentration of 8.35 ng/mL $\pm$ 0.16 ng/mL. The regulatory threshold for this controlled therapeutic medication is 1 ng/mL. This is in violation of 11VAC10-180-35(A) and 11VAC10-180-60.4. As a result, Mr. Dunning is hereby assessed a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and must return all purse monies. Additionally, LEROY GIBBS is disqualified from first and placed seventh. The purse shall be redistributed in accordance with the official order of finish. All purse monies must be returned within seventy-two (72) hours of this issuance. Pursuant to 11VAC10-70-180, all fines must be paid within 72 hours of receipt of this ruling, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and government holidays. Failure to pay will result in the full suspension of the Virginia Racing Commission permit holder, and will remain in effect until full payment is received. Fines may be paid in person at the Virginia Racing Commission Shenandoah Downs office on Fridays between 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM, Saturdays and Sundays between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, and Mondays between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM, by credit card over the phone at (804) 966-7420, or by mail to: Virginia Racing Commission, ATTN: Licensing Department, 10700 Horsemens Road, New Kent, VA 23124. ½ Multiple Medication Violation (MMV) point assessed.

KEIM, COTE J
PHL on 10/19/2026

CREAM RIDGE, NJ **YOB 1982**
FULL - INDEFINITELY AS OF 10/19/2026
INDEFINITE SUSPENSION(IND) AS OF
10/19/2026

FALSIFICATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION

PA Code Title 7-205.509 Cote Keim is hereby suspended in reciprocity with the license revocation issued by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission/Racing Division on 10/9/26. This pertained to not disclosing pertinent information on his 2026 license application. Mr. Keim is indefinitely suspended as of 10/19/26. Should the Massachusetts Gaming Commission/Racing Division alter its 10/9/26 ruling against you, the PSHRC may reconsider its position. During the time of this suspension Mr. Keim is denied access to the grounds under the jurisdiction of the PSHRC. Mr. Keim has ten days to appeal this decision

to the PSHRC, Bureau of Standardbred Racing. The address to appeal is 2301 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA. 17110.

KNITTEL, WAYNE E

PcD on 5/5/2026

BAKERSFIELD, CA

FINED: \$50

RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING(RES) AS OF
10/20/2026

YOB 1942

FAILURE TO OBTAIN PROPER LICENSE

Fined: \$50, Action(s) against license: Indefinite suspension(IND) as of 9/4/2026 PA Title 7-203.11(e) Wayne Knittel has failed to complete licensing requirements in PA for 2026.

PROOF raced on 5/5/2026 at Pocono Downs under a 30 day owner affidavit. Mr. Knittel was fined \$50 and is suspended indefinitely beginning 9/4/2026 and will remain suspended until the fine is paid and all licensing requirements have been met.

Status as of 10/20/2026 - Subsequent Ruling - Wayne Knittel has paid the fine from ruling #26152PD and completed all licensing requirements in PA. Mr. Knittel, as of 10/20/2026, has been restored to good standing in PA

LOCKWOOD, HENRY LEE

Har on 10/5/2026

FRANKFORD, DE

YOB 1962

POSITIVE TEST - ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE TEST

Henry Lockwood was subject of human drug testing on 10/5/26. The Sample was sent to DRS Medical Review Service, Massapequa, NY. Results were positive for Cocaine benoylecgonine. Per DHRC rule 5.1.8 5.1.8.2.7 5.1.8.3.3.2 5.1.8.5.1 Henry Lockwood is indefinitely suspended, until he completes a certified drug rehabilitation program and produces proof of completion to the DHRC board of judges. While suspended Henry Lockwood is denied access to all facilities governed by the Delaware Harness Racing Commission

MILLER, KARA R

ScD on 7/18/2026

DUNDEE, OH

FINED: \$1,000

FULL - 45 DAYS, 10/27/2026 THRU 12/10/2026
HORSE DISQUALIFIED - PLACED 9, PURSE
REDISTRIBUTION

YOB 2004

POSITIVE TEST- POST RACE

OSRC 3769-18-01-A(1,10,13,15,16), 3769-18-02, 3769-17-43, 3769-17-30-B. Blood sample #943436 was tested by the Ohio Department of Agriculture ATL and was found to contain 7-Carboxycannabidiol, a Class 2, Penalty B drug. Blood sample #943436 was provided by #2 Nonna's Moni, who finished 1st in race 17 on 7/18/26 at Scioto Downs, and was trained by Ms. Miller. Ms. Miller requested a split sample that was confirmed. Ms. Miller then waived her rights to a hearing. This is Ms. Miller's 2nd medication violation in the last 365 days. #2 is disqualified and placed 9th and the purse earnings of \$7500 are to be returned to Scioto Downs within 10 days to be redistributed accordingly. Ms. Miller is fined \$1000 and given a 75 day full suspension which includes 15 days that were stayed in ruling 26NFLD-235, the penalty will be reduced to a \$1000 fine and a 45 day full suspension

(10/27/26-12/10/26), which also includes the 15 days that were stayed in her first medication violation in ruling 26NFLD-235, if not appealed. The fine is to be paid within 10 days of this ruling to the OSRC. During her suspension, Ms. Miller is denied the use and privileges of all the grounds sanctioned by the OSRC. All horses owned and/or trained by Ms. Miller may only be transferred with permission of the Judges in Ohio or the OSRC. Ms. Miller has 48 hours to appeal this decision to the OSRC.

SODANO, JUSTIN M
PHL on 7/28/2026

CHESTERFIELD, NJ
FINED: \$500
HORSE DISQUALIFIED - PLACED 3

YOB 1996

POSITIVE TEST- POST RACE

PA CODE TITLE 7-203.22(a) 401.41(a)(b) 401.45 Justin Sodano was the trainer of record for GOLD GLOVE HANOVER, In the 13th qualifying race on July 28th, 2026 At Harrah's Philadelphia Racetrack. Blood samples taken from GOLD GLOVE HANOVER (post race) were tested and found to contain Flunixin at a level of (32.53 +/- 2.49 ng/mL). As the trainer, Mr. Sodano is responsible for the positive test. GOLD GLOVE HANOVER finished first and has been disqualified and placed third. Mr. Sodano is issued a \$500 fine which must be paid within 10 days of this ruling and has waived his hearing/appeal rights.

PART THREE - WHIPPING VIOLATIONS

GRAFFAM, NICHOLAS M
PRC on 10/15/2026

FALMOUTH, ME
FINED: \$250
DRIVING - 1 DAY, 10/22/2026 THRU 10/22/2026

YOB 1990

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP

USTA Rule 18.08 (b) (2). On 10/15/2026 at PRC, while driving No.5 HEAVENS PIC in Race 10, driver Nicholas Graffam did use the whip more than three times in succession without giving the horse time to respond to the urging. (1st offense). As a result of the violation Mr. Graffam is hereby fined the sum of \$250.00. In addition, Mr. Graffam is suspended from driving only for one day, 10/22/2026. Subsequent violations of this nature will result in increased penalties. All fines are payable within 48 hours of imposition.

HAWK, ALEXANDER D
Lanc on 10/15/2026

CIRCLEVILLE, OH
FINED: \$750

YOB 1992

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP

OSRC 3769-17-17-B Mr. Hawk, while driving horse Lather Up Athens in the 10 race at the Fairfield County fair in Lancaster, Ohio on 10/15/2026. Mr. Hawk whipped his horse inappropriately thru out the mile using other than wrist and elbow action. Mr. Hawk is fined \$1000, \$750 if not appealed, which is due within 10 days of this ruling. This is his 3rd offense in 365 days. Mr. Hawk has 48 hours to appeal this decision to the OSRC.

MCNEIL, JOHN C III
VD on 10/17/2026

DEANSBORO, NY
FINED: \$100

YOB 1987

EXCESSIVE OR INDISCRIMINATE USE OF WHIP

beyond wrist and forearm action- first whipping offense in 365 days

MILLER, EDWARD J**POLK, OH****YOB 1997****Nfld** on 10/16/2026

FINED: \$300

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP

While driving #5 Goodnight Dance in race #11 on 10/16/26 he whipped the horse in an exaggerated manner by raising his whipping arm above shoulder height and using more than elbow and wrist action. Mr. Miller waived his right to a hearing and is hereby fined \$500. The penalty will be reduced to a fine of \$300 if not appealed. This is Mr. Miller's first whipping offense in the last 365 days. O.S.R.C.-3769-17-17(B)&(C). The fine must be paid by 10/27/26.

PERRIN, J D**LEBANON, OH****YOB 1985****DTN** on 10/22/2026

FINED: \$300

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF THE WHIP

OSRC 3769-17-17-B. While driving #9 Cinderlane Cruiser during the stretch in race 9 on 10/22/26 at Dayton Raceway, Mr. Perrin did whip the horse using other than wrist and elbow action. This is Mr. Perrin's 1st whipping offense in the last 365 days. Mr. Perrin is fined \$500, the penalty will be reduced to \$300 if not appealed, which is due within 10 days of this ruling. Mr. Perrin has 48 hours to appeal this decision to the OSRC.

PART FOUR - MINOR PENALTIES**AKINS, MARK G****GILBERTSVILLE, PA****YOB 1965****PHL** on 10/15/2026

FINED: \$200

FAILURE TO HAVE HORSE PROPERLY EQUIPPED**BOBBITT, GEREMY C****FOREST, MS****YOB 1997****Lex** on 10/10/2026

FINED: \$100

CROSSING OVER BEFORE THE START**BONGIORNO, JOSEPH R****MONROE, NJ****YOB 1993****ScD** on 10/16/2026

FINED: \$200

HORSE PLACED 5

INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION**BOYD, BRAXTEN B****JONESVILLE, MI****YOB 2000****PcD** on 10/6/2026

FINED: \$100

INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION**CALLAHAN, COREY****MIDDLETOWN, DE****YOB 1978**

PHL on 10/15/2026	FINED: \$200 HORSE PLACED 5	
INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION		
CARGO, JAMES W Nfld on 10/18/2026 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	MORROW, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1953
CIOCCA, JOHN JR. Nfld on 10/14/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	NORTHFIELD, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1993
COLE, MICHAEL C PHL on 10/18/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	CAMDEN, DE FINED: \$200 HORSE PLACED 5	YOB 1979
CROSS, JAY D HoP on 10/15/2026 COMING TO THE GATE OUT OF POSITION	MIDDLEBURY, IN FINED: \$100	YOB 1955
HALL, AARON C Bang on 10/18/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	GARDINER, ME FINED: \$100	YOB 1993
HANNERS, AUSTIN B DTN on 10/21/2026 IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF ANOTHER HORSE	FRANKFORT, OH FINED: \$200	YOB 1999
HUSTED, KYLE A HoP on 10/14/2026 FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED DTN on 10/20/2026 JOSTLE, STRIKE OR HOOK WHEELS	ANDERSON, IN FINED: \$200 FINED: \$350	YOB 1991
IRVINE, JUSTIN D Nfld on 10/13/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	AURORA, OH FINED: \$200 HORSE PLACED 4	YOB 2001
JAMIESON, JODY C ScD on 10/17/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	GUELPH, ON FINED: \$100	YOB 1976
JOYCE, LESLIE A K	LEBANON, OH	YOB 1980

DTN on 10/20/2026	FINED: \$300	
FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION		
KAKALEY, MATTHEW DON	MOUNTAIN TOP, PA	YOB 1988
PcD on 10/13/2026	FINED: \$100	
FAILURE TO SET AND MAINTAIN A PROPER PACE		
KINA, CAMERON L	MARYSVILLE, OH	YOB 2005
Btva on 10/22/2026	FINED: \$500	
WARMING UP BEFORE PRE-RACE BLOOD TEST		
KING, LARRY D	WILLSHIRE, OH	YOB 1942
Nfld on 10/14/2026	FINED: \$100	
INACCURATE PROGRAM INFORMATION		
MACDONALD, ANTHONY A	MACEDONIA, OH	YOB 1976
DTN on 10/22/2026	FINED: \$200	
	HORSE PLACED 7	
JOSTLE, STRIKE OR HOOK WHEELS		
MACDONALD, JAMES A	GUELPH, ON	YOB 1986
ScD on 10/17/2026	FINED: \$100	
INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION		
MERRIMAN, AARON E	NORTHFIELD, OH	YOB 1978
Nfld on 10/16/2026	FINED: \$100	
FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED		
Nfld on 10/17/2026	FINED: \$100	
INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION		
MILLER, DAVID S	WILMINGTON, OH	YOB 1964
ScD on 10/16/2026	FINED: \$200	
FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED		
MILLER, LEWAYNE L	DALEVILLE, IN	YOB 1986
HoP on 10/15/2026	FINED: \$200	
LATE TO THE PADDOCK		
MILLER, TYLER J	CREAM RIDGE, NJ	YOB 1998
PRc on 10/19/2026	FINED: \$100	
INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION		
MOGAN, ZACH S	GROVE CITY, OH	YOB 1994
DTN on 10/19/2026	FINED: \$300	
INACCURATE PROGRAM INFORMATION		

MORRIS, LEE S HoP on 10/10/2026 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	MIDDLETOWN, IN FINED: \$100	YOB 1984
MOSHER, JOEY D Bang on 10/18/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	SMITHFIELD, ME FINED: \$100	YOB 1967
OOSTING, MICHAEL J PRc on 10/16/2026 FAILURE TO KEEP BOTH FEET IN THE STIRRUPS	FISKGALE, MA FINED: \$200	YOB 1962
PRESLEY, CHRIS S DTN on 10/19/2026 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	THORNVILLE, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1995
RHOADES, BILL Nfld on 10/16/2026 INACCURATE PROGRAM INFORMATION	NORTHFIELD, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1987
SCHWARTZ, MERVIN E HoP on 10/8/2026 FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION	BLUFFTON, IN FINED: \$200	YOB 1995
SHAW, CHRISTOPHER S Mea on 10/9/2026 FAILURE TO KEEP BOTH FEET IN THE STIRRUPS	WASHINGTON, PA FINED: \$200	YOB 1986
SHORT, RONALD E Har on 10/20/2026 LATE DRIVER CHANGE	GREENWOOD, DE FINED: \$100	YOB 1978
SMITH, TREVOR GENE DTN on 10/15/2026 JOSTLE, STRIKE OR HOOK WHEELS	FRANKLIN, OH FINED: \$200	YOB 1996
SMITH, TYLER ALAN DTN on 10/21/2026 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN REASONABLE CONTROL OF THE HORSE	ASHVILLE, OH FINED: \$350	YOB 1993
SOWERS, MCKENZIE I MR on 10/12/2026 LATE TO THE PADDOCK	MONTICELLO, NY FINED: \$250	YOB 1999

STEVENSON, MICHAEL A Bang on 10/18/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	NEW GLOUCESTER, ME FINED: \$100	YOB 1964
SWITZER, KEVIN P JR PRc on 10/20/2026 CHANGING COURSE/CAUSING INTERFERENCE	HIRAM, ME DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 10/26/2026 THRU 10/29/2026 HORSE PLACED 5	YOB 1987
THARPS, THOMAS ERIC JR. Nfld on 10/14/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	KETTERING, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1992
THOMPSON, JASON E Har on 10/20/2026 IMPEDING THE PROGRESS OF ANOTHER HORSE	HARTLEY, DE DRIVING - 3 DAYS, 10/26/2026 THRU 10/28/2026	YOB 1993
TOSCANO, LINDA J PcD on 10/15/2026 FAILURE TO HONOR DECLARATION	FREEHOLD, NJ FINED: \$500	YOB 1955
WARREN, TODD E HoP on 10/10/2026 FAILURE TO SET AND MAINTAIN A PROPER PACE	MONEE, IL FINED: \$100	YOB 1965
WEAVER, ROSY E Nfld on 10/14/2026 INSIDE THE EURO RAIL / PYLON VIOLATION	BEACH CITY, OH FINED: \$100	YOB 1986
WISHER, ADRIAN A JR. Wdstk on 10/17/2026 INTERFERENCE/ CAUSING ANOTHER HORSE TO MAKE A BREAK	CENTREVILLE, MD FINED: \$150 HORSE PLACED 6	YOB 1990
WRENN, PETER M ScD on 10/16/2026 FAILURE TO DRIVE WHEN PROGRAMMED	CARMEL, IN FINED: \$100	YOB 1962