STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DELAWARE THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION
777 DELAWARE PARK BLVD, WILMINGTON, DE 19804
AGRICULTURE.DELAWARE.GOV
(302) 994-2521 EXT. 7247 **OFFICE OF THE STEWARDS** FAX: (302) 994-3567

Stewards Ruling 82B-2022

Ruling Date: 8/12/2022 Licensee: Alison Escobar DOB: 03/28/1979
Violation Date: 8/11/2022 License Type: Owner/Trainer RCI ID: 2138969

Ruling Type/Description: Improper or Inhumane treatment of Animal

DTRC Rules Cited: 2.5.1.14, 2.5.1.20, 2.5.1.22, 7.2.1.2, 7.3.1, 7.3.4, 18.1.1, 18.1.3 3.3 All and 3.4 All

Fine: $2500 Fine Due Date: 8/24/2022
Suspension: Yes
Suspension Start Date: 8/19/2022 Suspension End Date: 10/17/2022

Narrative:

Owner/Trainer Alison Escobar, DOB: 03/28/1979, RCI ID: 2138969, appeared before the Board of Stewards at Delaware Park for a hearing scheduled for August 11, 2022, in the matter of the horse (Ashiham) trained by Alison Escobar. The Stewards were concerned for the health and welfare of "Ashiham". Owner/Trainer Alison Escobar "Waived" his right to Legal Counsel for this hearing. Stewards considered all evidence and testimony in this matter as follows:

1. Ashiham, trained by Alison Escobar was a Vet observed scratch during prerace examination at Tampa Bay Downs on April 21, 2022, for lameness and heat in the left front flexor tendon, and was placed on the Tampa Bay Downs Vets' List. In testimony, Trainer Escobar stated Ashiham was sore but did not want the horse scratched because he was the morning line favorite.
2. Ashiham worked on June 9, 2022, at Palm Meadows (Florida). Florida Regulatory Veterinarian Dr. Jane Teichner observed the horse lame on his left front on the while the horse was on the track surface after the work.
3. Dr. Teichner contacted Mr. Escobar's practicing Veterinarian Dr. Rendon concerning Ashiham. In a follow up text message from Dr. Rendon to Gulfstream Chief Regulatory Veterinarian Dr. Aponte, Dr. Rendon stated in his medical opinion that Ashiham's injury was career ending.
4. Dr. Teichner reported Ashiham to Gulfstream Chief Regulatory Veterinarian Dr. Aponte, who placed Ashiham on the Gulfstream Park Vet's list as Vet Observed and required an ultra-sound before any workout was scheduled. No ultra-sound was ever taken.
5. On July 12, 2022, Ashiham arrived by van from Palm Meadows (Florida) to Delaware Park. No foal papers were ever turned into the Racing Office as required by the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission Rule 7.3.4.

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6. On August 3, 2022, D.T.R.C. Safety Steward Eric Coatrieux requested the DTRC Veterinarian Annie Renzetti inspect the horse Ashiham after Eric observed Ashiham lame on the track with a significant bowed left tendon.
7. On August 3, 2022, Dr. Renzetti observed Ashiham significantly lame on a scale of 4/5 and a bow on the left front flexor tendon that was warm to the touch and sore on palpitation. Dr. Renzetti placed Ashiham on the DTRC Vets' List requiring an immediate diagnostic testing including ultra-sound and stall rest until reevaluated by Commission Veterinarians.
8. Trainer Escobar stated in testimony that Ashiham was not under the care of a practicing Vet and had not been observed at Delaware Park by a Veterinarian prior to the Stewards hearing.

A registered Trainer shall bear primary responsibility for the proper care, health, condition, safety and protection of horses in his charge per D.T.R.C. Rule 7.3.1

Cruelty to a horse or neglect of a horse entrusted to a permittee's care. Trainer Escobar failed to follow veterinarian medical recommendations after being placed on two separate Vet's list. Rule 2.5.1.14

Contemplated conduct intentionally or unintentionally, and whether in fact or only seemingly, the public's confidence in the reputation of Thoroughbred racing. Rule 2.5.1.20

Activity which would be inconsistent with the best interest of racing. Rule 2.5.1.22

Must be qualified or competence to care for and train racehorses. Rule 7.2.1.2

Conclusion:

Owner/Trainer Alison Escobar is "SUSPENDED" for a term of 60 days to start on August 19, 2022, to and through October 17, 2022, fined Twenty-five hundred dollars ($2500). Rules 18.1.1, 18.1.3, 3.3 All and 3.4 All.

Before reinstatement will be considered Alison Escobar "MUST" pass the DTRC Trainers Test.

All horse transfers must be approved by the Board of Stewards at Delaware Park.

During the term of his suspension Alison Escobar is "Denied" access to all grounds under the jurisdiction of the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission.

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Amendment A: August 16, 2022

Trainer Alison Escobar, on August 13, 2022, filed appeal and stay of Stewards Ruling 82-2022, with Executive Director Sarah Crane.

Alison Escobar's request for an Appeal before the D.T.R.C. Commission on September 13, 2022, has been granted. Director Sarah Crane has "DENIED" Mr. Escobar's application for a "Stay" on August 16,2022, based on the following:

1. Appeal application does not demonstrate any evidence that you will be irreparably harmed without a stay;
2. Appeal application and communications with this Commission suggest that the appeal documentation and notarization was falsified; and
3. Granting a stay would negatively affect the public perception and integrity of racing.

Amendment B: September 14, 2022

Trainer Alison Escobar was duly noticed and appeared before the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission appeal hearing on September 13, 2022. After considering all testimony and evidence the Racing Commission has "UPHELD" Stewards Ruling 82-2022.

Failure to pay the assessed fine by the due date may result in a suspension of license. Monetary fines not paid within the parameters of the official ruling are subject to penalty and interest charges at the rate of 1.5% per month compounded monthly.

Joelyn Rigione | Robert Colton | William Troilo