



New Mexico Racing Commission
4900 Alameda NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Ruling #: 2026-RUI-67
Track Ruidoso Downs
Ruling Date: 6/28/2026

Licensee: MENDOZA, RAMON

License Type: 2025 3 Year Trainer Applicant Id: 159104
License Number: 314485

Ruling # 2026-RUI-67

Action Type: Final Outcome

Ruling:

RE: 2026-RUI-67 - Ruling Final Outcome

Owner/Trainer Ramon Mendoza, currently under a summary suspension since June 26, 2026, having been duly notified, waived his summary suspension hearing via telephone before the Ruidoso Downs Board of Stewards at The Downs at Albuquerque Racetrack (145 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108) per 15.2.1.9 A. (3)(b) (Summary Suspension) on July 5, 2026, at 11:00 A.M. The suspension is regarding conduct detrimental to racing by having five out-of-competition samples testing positive for albuterol in 2026 within a six month period for the following horses:

'Beyond Big Daddy", on January 12, 2026.

"Hott Favorite", on March 9, 2026.

"Twisterr", on April 19, 2026.

"Judge T", on June 8, 2026.

"Dynasty Wears Prada", on June 8, 2026.

Given the evidence presented, licensee is found to be in violation of NMAC Rules:

15.2.5.13 B. (1) HORSES INELIGIBLE

15.2.6.9. C. (1)(4) Medication restrictions:

(1) A finding by the commission approved laboratory of a prohibited substance in an official post-race or out-of-competition sample of a horse is prima facie evidence that the prohibited substance was administered to the horse and, in the case of a post-race test, was present in the horse's body while it was participating in a race.

(4) There is no permissible concentration of clenbuterol that is allowed to appear in any official sample. This includes samples collected from Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds.

15.2.6.9. J (1)(2)(d) OUT OF COMPETITION TESTING:

15.2.6.11 A. TRAINER RESPONSIBILITY

NMAC 16.47.1.8 L. (1)(e)(i)(o) Grounds for disciplinary measures for a licensee, and refusal, denial, suspension, or revocation of a license: (1) The commission may refuse to issue a license to an applicant, or may suspend or revoke a license issued, or order disciplinary measures, if the applicant:

(e) has been found in violation of rules governing racing in New Mexico and of other racing commissions or of any recognized regulatory organization:

(i) is a person whose conduct or reputation may adversely reflect on the honesty and integrity of horse racing or interfere with the orderly conduct of a race meeting; interfering with the orderly conduct of a race meeting shall include, but is not limited to, disruptive or intemperate behavior or behavior which exposes others to danger anywhere on the racetrack grounds; the fact that the race meet was not actually interrupted is not a defense



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to the imposition of discipline under this rule;

(o) has engaged in conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the best interests of racing;
16.47.1.10 B. Absolute Insurer: (1) The trainer is the absolute insurer of the condition of horses entered in an official workout or race and is responsible for the presence of any prohibited drug or medication, or other prohibited substance in such horses. A positive test for a prohibited drug or medication or other prohibited substance or the presence of permitted medication in excess of maximum allowable levels as reported by a commission-approved laboratory is prima facie evidence of a violation of this rule. The trainer is absolutely responsible regardless of the acts of third parties.

(2) A trainer must prevent the administration of any drug or medication or other prohibited substance that may cause a violation of these rules.

For these violations, the Board of Stewards hereby issue the following penalties:

1. A fine of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000), per Rule 15.2.6.9 B. which must be paid on or before August 8, 2026, in accordance with NMAC 15.2.3.8 B.(3)(e). Failure to pay the fine within the prescribed time may result in immediate suspension. Pursuant to NMAC 15.2.1.9. A. (7)(f) all fines imposed by the Stewards shall be paid to the Commission within 14 days after the Ruling is issued, unless otherwise ordered.
2. Ramon Mendoza shall have all licenses issued by the Commission suspended for a period of two years, per Rule 15.2.6.9B (1), retroactive from **June 26, 2026 through June 25, 2028.**
3. In order to be restored to good standing, Ramon Mendoza shall be required to take and pass all sections of the New Mexico Racing Commission written Trainer's exam, in accordance with Rule 16.47.1.10 A.(4) Trainers.
4. Horses "Judge T" and "Dynasty Wears Prada" shall be placed on the Steward's list for 180 days (retro
5. active from June 24, 2026, 2026, through December 20, 2026) and must pass a commission-approved examination (including negative hair and blood tests for prohibited substances) before becoming eligible to be entered, per Rule 15.2.6.9 B. (1).

In accordance with NMAC 15.2.1.9 B. (21), Ramon Mendoza is hereby excluded from all areas of the grounds under the jurisdiction of the NMRC. Additionally, effective upon applicable suspension dates, all horses owned, trained, or under the care of Ramon Mendoza are ineligible to be entered or start in any race in this jurisdiction, per 15.2.1.9 A. (8)(b) and 15.2.1.9 B.(21)(c). NMSA 1978, Section 60-1A-4(A) provides "The commission may exclude or compel the exclusion of a person from all horse racetracks who the commission deems detrimental to the best interests of horse racing..."

All transfers and sales of horses trained, owned, or in the care and custody of Ramon Mendoza must be done in accordance with NMAC 15.2.6.9 A. (13)(a)(b)(c)(d) and 16.47.1.10 D. (7) Assistant Trainers.

This ruling was written in accordance with:



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15.2.1.8 B. Commission General Authority
15.2.1.9 A. Proceedings Before the Stewards
15.2.2.8 V. Ejection and Exclusion
15.2.3.8 B. Stewards
16.47.1.3 Statutory Authority
16.47.1.8 A.(1)(2) License Required
16.47.1.8 L. Grounds for Disciplinary Measures
16.47.1.8 N. Changes in Application
16.47.1.8 T. Knowledge of Rules
16.47.1.8 U. Protection of Horses (1)(2)
16.47.1.10 B. Absolute Insurer
16.47.1.10. C. (28) Trainer – Other Responsibility
15.2.1.9 A. (9)(b): Appeal Procedures, which states "An appeal under this section must be filed not later than 10 days after the day of the ruling. If the deadline falls on a Sunday or a legal holiday, the period is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. The appeal must be received by noon at the main commission offices or with the Stewards who issued the ruling and must be accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$400.00 dollars. The fee must be in the form of a cashier's check or a money order. The last day to file is August 4, 2026.

By Order of The Ruidoso Downs Stewards

Violet Smith

Geoff Wapler

Ronald Frazier