



New Mexico Racing Commission
4900 Alameda NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Ruling #: 2026-RUI-76
Track Ruidoso Downs
Ruling Date: 7/3/2026

Licensee: CRUZ, ALEJANDRO

License Type: 2026 1 Year Groom Applicant Id: 160570
License Number: 318835

Ruling # 2026-RUI-76
Action Type: Final Outcome
Ruling:

RE: 2026-RUI-76 - Ruling Final Outcome 8-31-26

Groom Alejandro Cruz, currently under a summary suspension per 15.2.1.9 A.(3)(a)(b)(c) Summary Suspension issued July 3, 2026 regarding a failed drug test conducted by the New Mexico Racing Commission investigator, having been duly notified, failed to appear for his Disciplinary Hearing on August 31, 2026, at 9:30am, which was held in absentia in the office of the Ruidoso Downs Board of Stewards (The Downs at Albuquerque, Gate 7, 145 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108).

Aggravating factors considered:

Lab results revealed that Alejandro Cruz tested positive for amphetamine, methamphetamine and THC.

Licensee is found in violation of NMAC:

16.47.1.17 B. HUMAN DRUG OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND ALCOHOL TESTING:
Restricted Activities: All licensees may be subject to testing for controlled substances, drugs and alcohol. It shall be a violation for a licensee to utilize their commission issued license if the licensee:

(7) presently has drugs or controlled substances or alcohol in their body.

16.47.1.18 A. TESTING PROCEDURES: Controlled Substance and Drug Testing:

(1) At its discretion, the commission may conduct random or episodic random drug testing, as well as testing based on reasonable suspicion, in order to ensure safety on the association grounds.

(2) All licensees may be subject to testing for controlled substances and drugs.

(3) No advance notice need be given.

16.47.1.19 B. ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS: First-time offenders:

(1) The board of stewards or the commission may, at its discretion, order the licensee to obtain a professional assessment to determine whether there is a substantial probability that the licensee is dependent on, or abuses, alcohol or other drugs or the board of stewards or the commission may act on the information at hand.

(2) Actions in the case of first offenders may include revocation of the license, suspension of the license for up to six months, placing the offender on probation for up to 90 days or ordering formal assessment and treatment.

(3) Treatment or assessment, if ordered, must meet the conditions given in Subsection C of



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16.47.1.18 NMAC.

During said time of applicable suspension Groom Alejandro Cruz is hereby excluded from all areas of the grounds under the jurisdiction of the NMRC, **per Rule 15.2.1.9 B. (21) (a-b) Exclusion.**

For this violation, the Board of Stewards issue the following penalties:

1. A hundred twenty (120) day suspension, retroactive from July 3, 2026 through October 30, 2026.
2. Prior to reinstatement, Alejandro Cruz must provide a negative urine sample.

This ruling is written in accordance with NMAC:

15.2.1.8 B. (1) Commission General Authority
15.2.1.9 A. Due Process and Disciplinary Action
15.2.1.9 A. (3)(a)(b)(c) Summary Suspension
15.2.2.8 V. (1) 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

15.2.1.9 A. (9)(b): Which states in pertinent part that "An appeal under this section must be filed not later than 10 days after the date of the ruling. If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the period is extended to include 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. The fee must be in the form of a cashier's check or money order." The last day to file an appeal is September 10, 2026.

By Order of The Ruidoso Downs Stewards

Violet Smith

Geoff Wapler

Ronald Frazier