



BOARD OF JUDGES RULING

Kentucky Horse Racing & Gaming

4047 Iron Works Parkway

Lexington KY 40511

Name: Rodriguez Matthew
Last First Middle
USTA# 655K33 Occupation: Trainer
Violation: Possession Of Hypodermic Needles, Syringes, and Injectables
Violation Date: 8/24/2026 Ruling Date: 9/1/2026

Narrative

Mr. Matthew Rodriguez appeared before the Board of Judges of the KHRG by phone for a hearing after being issued a summarily suspension after violating 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 1 and 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 2 when hypodermic syringes, needles and injectables were found by an KHRG Investigator during a search of his vehicle on association grounds of The Red Mile on race day 8/24/2026. After being presented with evidence and hearing testimony under oath, the board of judges determine that Mr. Rodriguez did violate 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 1, 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 2 by possessing syringes, needles, and injectables on association grounds. Actions of this nature violate 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – I, as Mr. Rodriguez purposely violated the rules of the KHRG. Mr. Rodriguez engaged in conduct that is not in the best interest of racing, violating 810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – Q. Mr. Rodriguez is hereby issued a Five Thousand (\$5000) Dollar Fine and a One Hundred Eighty (180) Day full suspension from 9/1/2026 through 02/27/2027. Mr. Rodriguez is denied privileges and access to all association grounds under the jurisdiction of the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation. Any and all horses owned and trained by Mr. Rodriguez are not permitted to be transferred without prior approval of the Board of Judges of the KHRG.

Violation Law:

810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 1	810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – JJ – 2
810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – I	810 KAR 3:020 Section 15 – 1 – Q

ALL FINES ARE DUE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THIS RULING

ANY APPEAL OF THIS ORDER MUST BE DELIVERED IN WRITING TO THE KHRG WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE RULING DATE

Ruling # RM2026-010 (Amended)

Suspension: **09/01/2026** through **02/27/2027** Total Days: **180**

Fine: **\$5000**


Casey Larson
KHRG Presiding Judge


Jeff James
KHRG Associate Judge


Dave Magee
Association Associate Judge