

SHARK: Showing Animals Respect & Kindness

Dedicated to ending the abuse and suffering of animals everywhere.

August 19, 2013

California Veterinary Medical Board
2005 Evergreen Street - Ste 2250
Sacramento, CA 95815

To: California Veterinary Medical Board
Re: Dr. Tim Eastman's Livestock Injury Report for 2013 California Rodeo Salinas

I have in my possession a letter from Tim Eastman, Veterinarian for the California Rodeo Salinas, addressed to the California Veterinary Medical Board, regarding animal injuries at the 2013 California Rodeo Salinas.

Dr. Eastman reports what he considers to be "significant injuries." *Compliance with Section 4830.8 of the Business and Professions Code requires attending or on-call veterinarians at a rodeo to report any animal injury at the event requiring veterinary treatment within 48 hours of the conclusion of the rodeo.* By only reporting what he considered significant injuries and not all injuries requiring treatment, Dr. Eastman did not comply with the law.

This letter also questions the accuracy of Dr. Eastman's letter.

Dr. Eastman states that on Thursday, July 18, there were "no significant injuries," while SHARK's video documentation clearly shows five injuries.

Dr. Eastman states the following for Friday, July 19:

"During the slack performance of steer wrestling a steer (#78) turned in front of the competitor's horse causing both to stumble. The horse stepped on the steer's neck causing a fracture/luxation at approximately the level of C3-C4."

A careful review of video documentation showing the direction of the steer reveals that the steer did not turn in front of the competitor's horse. The steer moved in a straight line, and the competitor's horse was directed into hitting the steer.

The horse did NOT step on the steer's neck. It simply did not happen that way. The likely cause of the steer's primary injury was the tip of the steer's right horn digging into the ground while the steer's body still had momentum. In any case, Dr. Eastman's description of the event is wrong.

Dr. Eastman mentions no other injuries for July 19, while SHARK's video documentation reveals seven additional apparent injuries.

Dr. Eastman states that one steer was injured on Saturday, July 20, while SHARK's video documentation shows three apparent injuries.

Dr. Eastman indicates that one calf was injured on Sunday, July 21, while SHARK's video documentation indicates seven apparent injuries.

While some of these injuries might not require veterinary care, a claim that none of them required care would be troubling at best.

The California Rodeo in Salinas should file an amended report that complies with California law.

With this letter I include a link to a YouTube video. All the clips in the YouTube video were shot at the 2013 California Rodeo Salinas. A DVD of this video can be sent to you upon request.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAYBFzS7770>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steve Hindi", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Steve Hindi, President

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