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EQUAL MOSTAZA WINS DRAMATIC CLASICO COCLES IN STEWARDS' ROOM

It was a dramatic end to the 2025 edition of the **Listed handicap Clasico Cocles**, which was run at the San Isidro racecourse in Argentina, as the Las Monjitas owned colt **Equal Mostaza (ARG)** was awarded the victory in the stewards' room. The Juan M. Etchechoury trained four-year-old colt who had taken up a position at the back of the field, which was fairly strung out in the early part of the 2400m race, had come with a strong run down the middle of the final straight where he was hampered on two occasions by **Halteres (ARG)** who had his head in front of him when they passed the winning post.

Following an objection from Equal Mostaza's jockey Francisco Leandro Fernandes, the stewards did not take long to decide to strip **Halteres** of his success in this race, judging that he had taken **Equal Mostaza** off a true line. With such a minimal margin separating the two horses on the finishing line, the decision came down in favour of the son of Equal Stripes and Carta De Amor.



This was a first success in a Black Type race for **Equal Mostaza** and his jockey Francisco Leandro Fernandes said:

"He has been improving all the time and certainly improved over the 2400m distance. He only ran 21 days ago in Palermo and again, he has improved. Obviously, I would have preferred to win the race fair and square on the track, rather than in the stewards' room, but there was no doubt that he

was hindered twice. In fact, he made me veer out onto the track and without that, he would have been a clear winner."

Equal Mostaza who completed the race in 2:28:10 and beat **Halteres** into second place, followed in third by **Don Champagne (ARG)**, has earned every right to consider the **US \$300,000 Gr1 Gran Premio Latinoamericano**, which is run on 18 October at the Gavea racecourse in Brazil, as a long term objective.

His jockey though was rather cautious when he added: "That is still a long way away. He is going in the right direction though and could run in the race. The Latino is run over 2000m and my horse is a proper stayer, but we shall see."

About the Gran Premio Latinoamericano

Since the merger of OSAF (South American Organization for the Development of Thoroughbreds) and the Asociación Latinoamericana de Jockey Clubes e Hipódromos in December 2012, the **Gran Premio Latinoamericano (G1)** has become the flagship event of OSAF. This prestigious race has solidified OSAF's international presence and elevated the visibility of South American racing and breeding on the global stage.

Held annually at rotating venues across member nations, the "Latino" brings together the best Thoroughbreds from South America, offering the **region's richest purse**, distributed among the top five finishers. More than a race, it is a celebration of unity, excellence, and the spirit of collaboration among South American racing authorities.

Since its inaugural edition in 1981 at **Maroñas Racecourse** in Montevideo, the Gran Premio Latinoamericano has journeyed through Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay. Now in its **41st edition**, held at **Gávea Racecourse** in Rio de Janeiro, the race continues to symbolize the shared commitment to development, harmonization, and sporting excellence within our industry.

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