

STEWARDS REPORT

Clarence River Jockey Club GRAFTON RACECOURSE

Sunday 8 July 2018

Weather: Fine
Track: Good (3)
Rail: +3m w/post - 1600m, +3m 1200m – w/post, true remainder

STEWARDS: M. A. Holloway (Chairman), N. M. Daniels, F. C. Worrad & W. M. Friend

General: As C. Franklin was injured stewards permitted the following rider changes –

Race	Rider (Horse)
1	K. Fujii (Lady Serenity)
4	R. Plumb (Ministry of Fear)
5	M. McGuren (Fencourt (NZ))

RACE 1: Maiden Handicap 1106m:

Globite's Jayar – Slow to begin. Bumped wider shortly after straightening.

Gold Runner – Slow to begin. Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

Gratuitous – Inclined to overrace in the early and middle stages. Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

Heaven's Star – Change of tactics: to be ridden with little vigour early from the wide barrier, settled worse than midfield. Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels. When questioned regarding the performance of the filly jockey M. Palmer stated that from its position worse than midfield his mount failed to sprint strongly on straightening and was disappointing to the line. M. Palmer added he does not believe his mount can run out a strong 1100m and in his opinion is better suited settling in a prominent position over shorter distances. A post-race veterinary examination of the filly revealed it to be mildly lame in the off fore leg and to have a poor recovery rate. Trainer Mr C. Tyrrell was advised that the filly requires a veterinary certificate of fitness prior to its next race start.

Jess Da Dash – Slow to begin and hampered shortly after. Inclined to overrace and lay in in the early stages.

Lady Serenity – Buffeted between runners on jumping.

No Doubt A Lady – Bumped on jumping. Inclined to overrace in the early and middle stages.

Noreena – Bumped on jumping. Blundered near 1000m. Hung out from the 800m to the 200m. A post-race veterinary examination of the mare did not reveal any abnormality. Trainer Mr. G. Schwenke was advised that the mare is required to barrier trial to the satisfaction of stewards prior to racing again.

Sweet Kiara – Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

Wild Thief – Slow to begin. Rounding the home turn became held up on heels and was unable to be fully tested until shifting out around heels near the 300m. Bumped near 300m. Inclined to lay out for the remainder of the event.

RACE 2: Class 1 Handicap 1006m:

Anh Yeu Em – Slow to begin.

Cheat'm – Bumped on jumping. Raced wide in the early and middle stages. A post-race veterinary examination of the mare did not reveal any abnormalities.

Fading Mist – Began awkwardly and bumped another runner.

Kota Flyer – Bumped outwards on jumping. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the colt to be displaying a slow post-race recovery.

Laura's Star – Buffeted between runners on jumping. Inclined to overrace in the middle stages. Unable to improve rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

Mayfair Lady – Bumped on jumping. Raced very wide in the early and middle stages.

Miss Honeyflow – Slow to begin and hampered when bumped outwards shortly after.

Ms River Belle – Near 900m had to be eased from heels. Approaching the home turn became held up on heels and was unable to be fully tested until passing the 200m. Inclined to lay out under pressure over final 100m and was not tested. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the mare to be displaying a slow post-race recovery.

Stellar Power – Bumped out abruptly on jumping. Raced greenly in the early stages. Overraced in the middle stages. Passing the 500m became held up on heels and was unable to improve until shifting out around heels at the entrance to the straight. Approaching the 400m was steadied after improving onto heels.

Two Ducks Artie – Unable to improve rounding the home turn when held up on heels. When questioned regarding the apparent improved performance of the gelding trainer Mr P. Cunningham stated that for reasons unknown the gelding performs inconsistently.

Mr Cunningham stated that in its past four starts the gelding has shown form that would suggest it would be competitive in today's event and has been disappointing in others. Mr Cunningham stated that the gelding typically overraces in its races but today enjoyed the run of the race settling in a midfield position behind a fast tempo in the early and middle stages. Mr Cunningham stated the fact the gelding relaxed throughout the early and middle stages enabled it to sustain a finishing effort and pass the tiring leaders.

Veni Vidi Vici – Shortly after jumping had to steady when crowded.

RACE 3: Maiden Plate 1410m:

Caro Cavallo – Began awkwardly. Approaching the first turn was steadied after improving onto heels. Rounding the home turn was steadied after improving onto heels and obliged to shift out around heels to continue to improve.

Indisputable – Began awkwardly.

Serlina – Slow to begin.

Skylaazem – Overraced in the early stages

Spender (NZ) – A pre race veterinary examination of the gelding, which was resuming after an extended time off, passed it fit to race. Slow to begin. Overraced in the early and middle stages. Eased from heels near the 600m. Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels. Steadied from heels over concluding stages.

Towel Token – Slow to begin (2L). Unable to improve rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

Wee Lassie – Eased after improving onto heels rounding the home turn. Near 100m had to be eased away from heels.

Yeah The Boys – Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

RACE 4: Benchmark 59 Handicap 1410m

Another Valley – Began awkwardly and bumped another runner. Eased when tightened for room shortly after.

Celtic Trail – Pulled rounding the first turn.

Gold For Kev – Near 800m was steadied after improving onto heels. Approaching the home turn became held up for clear running and was unable to be tested until shifting out around heels approaching the 200m. Unable to be fully tested over final 50m.

Golden Valley – Bumped on jumping.

Jazzy Ruler – Inclined to overrace in the early and middle stages.

Madam Kate – Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

Ministry Of Fear – Bumped on jumping. When questioned regarding the performance of the gelding jockey R. Plumb stated that his mount settled in a rearward position as expected. R. Plumb stated that passing the 700m he commenced to work into the event as the leaders had enjoyed moderate sectionals. R. Plumb stated that during this time, although wide, his mount only responded to his riding for approximately 200m before feeling to deteriorate in its action and weaken to the line. A post-race veterinary examination of the gelding did not reveal any abnormality. Trainer Mr J. Reilly was advised that a warning would be placed on the geldings performance.

Onslow – A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to have bled from both nostrils for the 1st time. Trainer Mr. B. Munro was advised that the gelding will now incur the embargoes under AR53A. Mr Munro was fined \$800 for failing to report the matter to stewards (AR53A). In assessing penalty stewards acknowledged Mr Munro pleaded guilty to the breach. Further, Mr Munro was fined \$200 for removing the gelding from the saddling paddock within half an hour of the races conclusion (AR117(3)).

Our First One – Inclined to hang out throughout the event.

Sir Nemo – Trainer Mr J. Smerdon was fined \$200 for failing to scratch the gelding by the required time (LR36A).

Youngstown – Blundered on jumping and bumped shortly after. Unable to improve rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

RACE 5: Class 1 & Maiden Plate 2215m

Cushty Princess – Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

El Teniente – Passing the 700m was steadied when tightened between runners.

Fencourt (NZ) – Slow to begin. Inclined to overrace in the early stages. Rounding the first turn was steadied after improving onto heels.

Frisco Albert - Began awkwardly. Approaching the 600m was checked after improving onto heels.

Gallant Girl – Overraced in the early stages.

La Firebird (NZ) – Rounding the first turn was steadied when tightened between *Winged Poet*, which laid out, and *Slaughter Bay* which shifted in slightly. Apprentice J.

Guthmann-Chester (*Slaughter Bay*) was asked to exercise more care in similar circumstances. Raced wide from the 800m. Near the 300m was obliged to ease out around heels to continue to improve.

Real Time Warrior – Slow to begin. Inclined to overrace in the early stages. Rounding the first turn was steadied after improving onto heels. Pulled in the middle stages. Passing the 800m was eased out after improving onto heels. Rounding the home turn was unable to improve when held up on heels. Bumped another runner shortly after straightening. Jockey Ms L. Cheshire will be interviewed regarding her whip use prior to the 100m at a date to be fixed.

Slaughter Bay – Bumped shortly after straightening.

Skyreigns (NZ) – Inclined to overrace in the early stages.

Stormy Leo – Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

Sunsout Shirtsoff – Raced wide in the early stages.

Winged Poet – Inclined to pull in the early and middle stages. Near the 400m was eased when buffeted onto the rail. Near 150m was eased after improving onto heels. Jockey S. Traacey will be interviewed regarding his whip use prior to the 100m at a date to be fixed.

RACE 6: South Grafton Cup 1610m:

All But Gone – Slow to begin. At the entrance to the straight was obliged to ease out around heels to continue to improve. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to have a slow recovery rate.

American Diva – Trainer Mr. J. Smerdon was fined \$100 for failing to produce Thoroughbred Identification Card for the mare (AR59). Near the 600m was steadied after improving onto heels. Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels.

Brazen – Slow to begin. Bumped near the 200m.

Cash Spinner – Bumped shortly after the start.

Central Witness – Bumped shortly after the start. Overraced in the early and middle stages. Near the 600m was steadied and shifted out abruptly after improving onto heels. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to have a slow recovery rate.

Cogliere – Bumped near the 200m.

Like A Ruler – Overraced in the early stages.

Loud Enough – Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels. Eased from heels over the concluding stages.

The Equilizer – Inclined to lay in down the straight.

RACE 7: Benchmark 52 Handicap 1610m:

Blue Monte - Bumped near the 200m.

Cantillate – Unable to improve approaching and rounding the home turn when held up on heels. Jockey K. Fujii was fined \$100 for using his whip in an action above shoulder height (AR137(A)(4)(b)).

Forsox – When questioned regarding her riding between the 1100m and 900m, in particular why, whilst leading, she appeared to excessively reduced the speed of her mount before commencing to ride it along passing to hold another runner out that had attempted to improve and lead the event, jockey Ms T. Harrison stated that after establishing the lead near the 1400m her mount travelled keenly on the bridle and was inclined to hang out rounding the turn at the 1200m. Ms Harrison stated that her mount continued to travel keenly and approaching the 1100m she eased it in an attempt to have it settle and travel comfortably. Ms Harrison stated that whilst doing so, her mount continued to fight her however did come back quicker than she had anticipated. Ms Harrison stated that near the 1000m *Blue Monte* improved three wide around her mount and whilst doing so tightened her mount and the runner directly to her outside. Ms Harrison stated that she rode her mount forward at this point, in an effort to ensure it held its position on the rail. Ms Harrison stated that during this time it became apparent that *Blue Monte* was under full pressure and was not making easy ground on her mount and she elected to hold a position inside *Blue Monte* rather than restrain it to settle with cover as she had concerns with *Blue Monte's* ability to take her mount into the race. Stewards accepted Ms Harrison's explanation however cautioned her for excessively reducing the speed of the event between the 1100m and 1000m (AR137(d)). Laid out rounding the home turn and down the straight. Bumped near 200m.

Lord of the Dreamz – Passing the 1100m was steadied after improving onto heels. Inclined to lay out between the entrance to the straight and 200m. Approaching the 150m was steadied after improving onto the heels of a weakening runner and was unable to improve until shifting in around heels approaching the 50m.

Mr Malu – Slow to begin.

Ramatuelle – Steadied after improving onto heels near the 1000m. Unable to improve approaching the home turn when held up on heels. Near the 200m was obliged to ease out around heels to continue to improve.

Shark Creek – Unable to improve approaching the home turn when held up on heels. Laid out down the straight.

Wacky Doo – Raced wide in the early and middle stages. A post-race veterinary examination of the gelding did not reveal any abnormality.

With Every Bound – Inclined to overrace in the early stages.

Yankee Express – Raced wide in the early and middle stages.

Summary of whip use:

Stewards noted the following riders exceeded the permitted strikes of the whip prior to the 100m under AR137A(5)(a)(ii). Bearing in mind the totality of whip use, no action was taken.

Race	Rider (Horse)	Additional Strikes
1	J. Taylor (Gratuitous)	3
4	Ms C. Gramham (Jakuta)	3
6	Ms T. Harrison (Central Witness)	3

Swab samples were taken from all winners, **Kota Flyer, Towel Token, Brazen, All But Gone, Loud Enough, Cash Spinner, Kasharn, American Diva, Central Witness, The Equalizer, Like a Ruler** and **Apache Lad**.

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Race 4: J. Smerdon - \$200 (LR36A) Race 4: B. Munro - \$800 (AR53A) Race 4: B. Munro - \$200 (AR117(3)) Race 6: J. Smerdon - \$100 (AR59) Race 7: K. Fujii - \$100 (AR137A(4)(b))
Reprimands:	Nil
Suspensions:	Nil
Bleeders:	Race 4: Onslow – bled both nostrils 1 st time (AR53A)
Warnings:	Race 4: Ministry of Fear – poor performance
Trials:	Race 1: Noreena – hung out
Certificates:	Race 1: Heavens Star – mildly lame off fore
Fall/Injuries:	Nil
Tactics Notified:	Race 1: Heaven's Star – no vigour early, settled worse than midfield
Follow up:	Race 5: Ms L. Cheshire – whip use Race 5: S. Traeacey – whip use