

STEWARDS' REPORT

Australian Turf Club WARWICK FARM RACECOURSE

Wednesday, 13 June 2018

Weather: Fine
Track: Heavy (8)
Rail: True
Penetrometer: 5.84

STEWARDS: T J Vassallo (Chairman), P C Dingwall, T P Moxon and cadets F J Dale, M W Purse and R T Debels

(alm)

Supplementary Reports:

CANTERBURY PARK: Wednesday, 2 May 2018

RACE 6 – Bowermans Office Furniture Handicap 1250m

Penny For A Pound -- the Stewards today continued their inquiries into the catastrophic break down and subsequent euthanasia of the mare in the abovementioned race. Evidence was taken from co-trainer Mr Paul Snowden, who tendered his veterinary and treatment records for ***Penny For A Pound***, and Racing NSW official veterinarian Dr C Suann. A necropsy report from the University Veterinary Teaching Hospital Camden revealed a severe comminuted fracture of the off side humerus bone. A post-mortem urine sample obtained from ***Penny For A Pound***, which was sent to the ARFL for testing, was cleared of any prohibited substances. As the Stewards were satisfied that there were no pre-existing injuries that may have led or contributed to ***Penny For A Pound*** breaking down, the inquiry was concluded.

CANTERBURY PARK: Wednesday, 23 May 2018

RACE 6 – – Vale Don Storey 1550m

King Hewitt – B Avdulla explained that the tactics adopted on ***King Hewitt*** were largely contingent on the manner on which the gelding began from its outside barrier. He said that it was envisaged that if the gelding jumped on terms, it would race outside one of the anticipated on pace runners, Gresham, however when his mount began only fairly and African Academy, which was drawn directly to his outside, jumped in advance of him, he elected to shift in behind runners to obtain cover. He said this decision was also done on the basis that several other runners drawn to his inside had shown good gate speed, and that the composition of the field in the early stages was such that he may be left racing wide without cover, should he preserve to race prominently; therefore he positioned ***King Hewitt*** at the rear of the field. He said that leaving the 500m, he remained racing behind Screamer rather than shifting out to improve without cover as he was of the view that horse was providing him with a favourable trail into the event whereby he would save ground. He added that in the early part of the straight, he commenced to pressure ***King Hewitt***, however it only provided limited response and having regard to the manner in which it was closing off, he rode the gelding out hands and heels over the final 100m. He added that ***King Hewitt*** was one paced thereafter and therefore he refrained from applying any further pressure as he believed the gelding was competing at its best when ridden in this manner.

Trainer Mrs K Waugh confirmed the evidence provided by B Avdulla regarding the tactics in this race and she expressed satisfaction in respect of the ride. Mrs Waugh provided evidence of an email to the owners of ***King Hewitt***, outlining the advice to B Avdulla in respect of the manner in which the horse was to be ridden in this race. This email also illustrated Mrs Waugh's view that the gelding was a place chance in the event.

After considering all the evidence, the Stewards accepted that due to the circumstances at the start it was not unreasonable for B Avdulla to position his mount back in the field and that the decision to refrain from shifting out to improve after the 500m without cover was also not unreasonable. However

they were of the opinion that B Avdulla's lack of vigour over the final 100m was of concern and he was informed that in slightly different circumstances he could have been charged with significant breach of the rules of racing. He was reminded of his responsibility to ensure he fully tests his mounts wherever possible so as to leave no room for query.

Ms Waugh was advised that her explanation would be accepted, however it is important to ensure that horses trained by her are ridden in a consistent manner unless a change of tactics has been notified. A review of the wagering activity available to the Stewards did not yield any irregularities.

ROYAL RANDWICK: Saturday, 9 June 2018

RACE 3 – #Theraces Handicap 1100m

Rumba Queen – trainer Mr D Williams advised that he was satisfied with the post-race condition of the mare, and concurred with the views of the rider in respect of the poor performance.

NEWCASTLE: Saturday, 9 June 2018

RACE 7 – Pirtek CG&E Class 1 Handicap 1200m

Legislation – co-trainer Mr Peter Snowden advised that he was satisfied with the post race condition of the colt, however it will now be spelled and gelded.

HAWKESBURY: Sunday, 10 June 2018

RACE 4 – Harriet Nixon Memorial Metropolitan and Provincial Maiden Handicap 1300m

Indisputable – when questioned, rider T Angland stated that after beginning satisfactorily, his mount was able to settle in an off pace position in the early stages. He added that when both Dad's Boy and Bad Boy For Love, which were drawn to his outside, continued to stride forward to lead after the 1100m and furthermore, when Vicissitudes improved into the race approaching the 800m, despite his efforts to improve his position, **Indisputable** raced worse than midfield.

RACE 1 – TAB Rewards Plate 1100m

Music – C Brown replaced A Hyeronimus as the rider of the filly. A Hyeronimus will be interviewed. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities.

Silk Topper – shortly after the start, was steadied and shifted in behind runners from its wide barrier.

Kaecilius – approaching the 1000m, got in and away from *Danzibar Dancer* and had to be eased when awkwardly placed on the heels of *Sparkly Star*. **Kaecilius** raced keenly in the middle stages.

Danzibar Dancer – for some distance near the 900m, when racing keenly, was awkwardly positioned when racing tight to the inside of *Sweet Scandal*. **Danzibar Dancer** raced wide and without cover after the 800m.

Highjacker – when questioned, T Clark stated that his mount, which was resuming today, after being slow to begin, took up a position at the rear of the field. He added that his mount did not travel well on today's heavy track conditions and when asked to improve into the race from the 500m, the gelding was only one paced in the run to the line. He further added that in his opinion, **Highjacker** would be better suited over a longer distance and on a firmer track surface. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities.

RACE 2 – Australian Turf Club Plate 1200m

Echo Gem – non-claiming apprentice R King replaced J Parr (ill) as the rider of the filly.

Tawaret – after being loaded into the barriers, became fractious and made slight contact with the front gates. **Tawaret** was removed from the barriers, examined by the Club's veterinary officer and passed suitable to race. **Tawaret** was slow to begin. A post race veterinary examination revealed a speedy cut to the near hind pastern.

Ducale – shortly after the start, was crowded between *In A While* and *In Lighten Me*, which shifted in and away from *Reelem In Ruby*. **Ducale**, shortly after straightening, was awkwardly positioned behind *In A While* for a short distance before being able to secure clear running. Passing the 100m, **Ducale** had to be directed back to the inside of *Echo Gem*, which when weakening, shifted in slightly.

Helga – shortly after the start, was steadied and shifted in behind runners from its wide barrier. **Helga**, when attempting to improve between *Singing Sand* and *Monegal* rounding the home turn, commenced to hang out and made contact with *Monegal*. **Helga** then continued to hang out in the straight and proved somewhat difficult to ride out.

Enlighten Me – near the 900m, had to be eased when awkwardly placed on the heels of *Reelem In Ruby*, which shifted in when not quite clear.

Singing Sand – a post race veterinary examination revealed **Singing Sand** to have lost its near fore plate.

RACE 3 – Spring On Sale Sprint 1200m

Murvate – slow to begin. **Murvate**, near the 850m, shifted to the outside of the field to improve and secure clear running, however travelled wide and without cover thereafter.

Tswalu – slow to begin. When questioned, rider C Brown stated that his mount, which was resuming from a spell today, was somewhat fractious in the barriers and as a consequence, was slow to begin, however he was able to take up a prominent position without pressuring his mount. He added that his mount travelled well on today's heavy track conditions and near the 500m, when able to improve to the outside of *Magicus*, he elected to maintain a position behind *Florid* before shifting to its inside on straightening to improve into clear running. He added that his mount initially responded, however weakened over the final 200m. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities. Trainer D Pfeiffer will be interviewed and a decision on the mare's immediate racing future will be made.

Mad Fox – shortly after the start was steadied and shifted in behind runners from its wide barrier. **Mad Fox**, passing the 300m, proved difficult to shift to the inside of *Magicus* to secure clear running when inclined to lay out.

Nick On The Run – raced wide and without cover until near the 600m.

Florid – laid out under pressure over the final 100m and could not be fully tested in the run to the line. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities.

RACE 4 – Pluck@Vinery Handicap 1200m

Impasse – declaration of correct weight was delayed to enable the connections of the second placegetter **Impasse** to view the official patrol films to ascertain if there were grounds for an objection against *Feelin The Love*. When the connections were satisfied that there were not sufficient grounds for which to proceed with an objection, and the Stewards similarly agreed, correct weight was declared. Passing the 100m, rider J McDonald momentarily lost the use of his offside rein when placed in restricted room between *Oscar's Choice* and *Feelin The Love*, both of which shifted ground.

Feelin The Love – raced keenly in the early and middle stages.

Oscar's Choice – near the 850m, had to be eased when placed in restricted room between *Connoisseur* and *Impasse*, which shifted in when not quite clear.

Connoisseur – when questioned, rider G Schofield stated that his mount was able to establish a comfortable lead throughout the event, however when placed under pressure approaching the 400m, his mount failed to respond to his riding and was most disappointing in the run to the line. He added that in his opinion, the gelding failed to handle today's heavy track conditions. A post race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities.

RACE 5 – Ranvet Power Formula Handicap 1600m

Cedarwood – began awkwardly. Approaching the 1200m, after being crossed by *Surjin*, commenced to race keenly when awkwardly placed on the heels of that runner, shifted in and made contact with *Chalmers*. **Cedarwood** raced wide and without cover from the 800m.

Barbary – after being slow to begin, was then crowded between *Rakhish* and *Toryjoy*, which shifted out. Shortly after the start was steadied and shifted in behind runners from its wide barrier.

Corinth – shortly after the start, was hampered by *Animalia*, which shifted out and away from *Chalmers*. When questioned regarding his riding over the final 200m, rider C Brown stated that approaching and rounding the home turn, his mount, which was not comfortable on the heavy track conditions, blundered on several occasions. He said that shortly after straightening, he commenced to place his mount under pressure and approaching the 200m, his mount was hampered by *Barbary*, which laid in under pressure. He further added that given his relative position at this point, and the margin in respect to the runners in advance of him, he did not feel that in the circumstances it was necessary to ride his mount vigorously as he did not feel he was gaining a margin on *Cedarwood*. The Stewards advised C Brown that his lack of vigour over at the final 100m came under notice and that he must ensure that he places his mount under the appropriate pressure irrespective of whether he considered his mount would not figure in the placings. A post race veterinary examination did not reveal any abnormalities.

Toryjoy – shortly after the start was steadied and shifted in behind runners from its wide barrier.

Surjin – when questioned regarding the colt leading today, rider J Collett stated that whilst he was under no specific instructions, he was given the option to lead on **Surjin**. He added that at its previous start at Warwick Farm on 30 May 2018, from its outside barrier, **Surjin** did not show the necessary gate speed in which to offset the draw and in a race that was run at a genuine tempo in the early stages, he was not able to race prominently and as a consequence, was caught wide in the early stages and elected to shift behind runners to obtain cover after the 1400m. Trainer Mr P Perry advised that he had asked J Collett on the last two occasions to be positive in the early stages and similarly, this intention was conveyed to him today. Whilst the Stewards considered there were some circumstances in this instance, Mr Perry was reminded of his obligations regarding any change of tactics, noting this was the second occasion on which stable had been spoken to and he must be more mindful of this requirement in future.

Rakhish – a post race veterinary examination revealed **Rakhish** to be displaying an abnormal respiratory noise and a poor post race recovery. Co-trainer Mr A Bott was advised that a veterinary clearance, including the results of an endoscopic examination, would be required prior to racing again.

RACE 6 – Bowermans Office Furniture Handicap 2110m

Biodynamic – after being loaded into the barriers, kicked out and got its near hind leg up on the running board for a short time. The gelding was removed from the barriers, examined by the Club's Veterinary Officer and passed suitable to race. **Biodynamic** raced keenly in the early and middle stages. A post race veterinary examination revealed **Biodynamic** to be slow to recover.

Follow Suit – slow to begin.

Vilardo – after being slow to begin, from its wide barrier was steadied and shifted in behind runners shortly after the start.

Only Tiger – near the 900m, was carried wider by *Mornington* when that runner shifted to the outside of *Balansa*. **Only Tiger** then raced wide and without cover thereafter.

Firebird Flyer – laid in when placed under pressure in the straight.

RACE 7 – TAB Handicap 1300m

Gaytime Girl – slow to begin.

Sepoy Acheva – slow to begin. **Sepoy Acheva** was held up until rounding the home turn and had to be directed back to the inside of *Seahampton* to secure clear running.

Levee Bank – stood flat footed as the start was affected and lost ground (2L).

Deft – shortly after straightening, was disappointed for a run between *Oria* and *Latitude*. As a result, **Deft** then became held up behind *Oria* until near the 200m.

Seahampton – rider J McDonald advised that at no stage of the race did his mount cope with the heavy track conditions and he attributed this to be the principal reason for the horse performing below expectations today. A post race veterinary examination did not reveal any abnormalities. The Stewards will follow up with the post race condition of **Seahampton** in the days subsequent.

GENERAL:

Summary of whip use

The Stewards noted the following rider exceeded the permitted strikes of the whip prior to the 100m under AR137A(5)(a)(ii):

Race 4	J McDonald (Impasse)	6 strikes
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Bearing in mind the totality of whip use, no action was taken.

Swab samples were taken from all winners and the following runners:

Race 1: Highjacker, Kaecilius, Silk topper, Sparkly Star, Danzibar Dancer, Sweet Scandal.

Race 2: Echo Gem, Helga, Monegal, On The White Turf, Reelem In Ruby (2), Singing Sand, Tawaret.

Race 3: Tswalu, Magicus (2), Murvate, El Dorado Mine, Mad Fox.

Race 4: Feelin The Love, Connoisseur, More Moet, Impasse (2), Speed Hero, Oscar's Choice.

Race 5: Cedarwood, Chalmers, Surjin, Genovefa, Toryjoy.

Race 6: Follow Suit, Vilardo, Balansa, Catch The Culprit, Firebird Flyer.

Race 7: Levee Bank, Maddison, Seahampton, Latitude, Oria.

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Nil
Reprimands:	Nil
Suspensions:	Nil
Bleeders:	Nil
Warnings:	Nil
Trials:	Nil
Certificates:	Race 5: Rakhish (co-trainer A Bott) – including scope – abnormal respiratory noise and poor post race recovery.
Fall/Injuries:	Nil
Change of Tactics:	Race 5: Toryjoy – option to be ridden further forward; settled back.
Change of Colours:	Nil
Change of Gear	Nil
Follow up:	Race 1: A Hyeronimus (Music) – failed to fulfil riding engagement. Race 3: Tswalu (trainer D Pfeiffer) – poor performance. Race 7: Seahampton (trainer C Waller) – poor performance.