

STEWARDS' REPORT
Muswellbrook Race Club

SKELLATAR PARK RACECOURSE

Monday 7 October 2019

Weather: Fine
Track: Good (4) – Upgraded to Good (3) at 1:48pm retrospectively to include Race 1.
Rail: True

STEWARDS: D L Carr (Chairman), J B Marshall and cadet K E Blanch

Late riding changes:

As A Layt (injury), C Lever (injury) and J Innes jnr (illness) were all indisposed, Stewards permitted the following riding changes:

Race 1	Matchfox – C McPherson
Race 3	Camp David – R Thompson
Race 4	Barbass – A Bullock
Race 4	Tormund – V Bolozhinskyi
Race 5	Denim Street – A Morgan
Race 6	Vintage Flyer – A Gibbons
Race 7	Celtic Tiger – B Cray

RACE 1: Sardos Coffee 3yo+ Maiden Plate 1000m

Dubai Harbour – Hung in under pressure in the home straight.

Little Foxy – Was declared a late withdrawal at 12:08pm acting on veterinary advice that the mare was lame in the off-fore leg due to being pricked when being shod this morning.

Sequenzalot – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Amelika – For some distance rounding the home turn was held up on the heels of *Dubai Harbour* and approaching the 200m had to be checked away from the heels of that runner. **Amelika** then continued to be held up until near the 75m, where it was shifted to the outside of *Mahogany Bay* and closed its race off strongly when in clear running.

Bensay – Over the final 100m was inclined to lay in away from *Dubai Harbour* and over the concluding stages was carried inwards by that runner.

Mopitts – Raced greenly when placed under pressure in the home straight.

She's Unusual – Slow to begin. Over the concluding stages was unable to be ridden out when awkwardly positioned close to the heels of *Bensay*, which was taken in by *Dubai Harbour*.

Matchfox – Began awkwardly, then shortly after had to be checked away from the heels of *Mopitts*.

Bush Rambler – Began awkwardly and lost ground.

Pin Feather – A veterinary examination of the gelding, which shifted its near-fore plate during transportation to the course and had to be replated, deemed it suitable to race.

Typhoon Elle – Slow to begin, then shifted out abruptly shortly after the start and lost further ground.

RACE 2: Pirtek Muswellbrook Class 1 Handicap 1000m

Split – Slow to begin.

Aunty Pugs – Near the 200m, when giving ground, was hampered when *The Crimson Idol* shifted out.

Luff – Slow to begin.

Reckless Knight – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Win The Flag – A post-race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed no abnormalities.

Sniper Excels – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Luckier – Slow to begin.

RACE 3: Kingstar Farm Maiden Handicap 1280m

Crafty James – Slow to begin. Overraced in the early stages and for some distance passing the 1000m had to be checked away from the heels of *Rizzuto*.

Casa De Reign – Slow to begin.

Chasing Comets – Slow to begin.

Rizzuto – Slow to begin, then shortly after the start was steadied when crowded between *Dansk Havn* and *Our Eppy*, which was taken out by *Dukes County*.

Camp David – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Dukes County – Raced fiercely with its head up throughout the early and middle stages. An inquiry was opened into the circumstances surrounding rider C McPherson returning to scale at 55.9kg, which was 600g less than the gelding was required to carry in the race (56.5kg, including the 1kg allowance for her safety gear under AR187). C McPherson advised that she had included a large orange towel as part of her packing when weighing out and it was not until she was unsaddling the gelding after the race that she noticed the towel was not fitted to the gelding. She added that all of the other gear that she weighed out with was present and the missing towel was the only explanation she could offer for her failure to carry the correct weight. Trainer Mr J Sylvester advised that he did not inspect C McPherson's gear when she passed him her saddle outside the weighing room and when fitting the saddle to **Dukes County** he was unaware that the towel was missing. The towel was subsequently located on the ground adjacent to the path Mr Sylvester took when walking from the weighing room to the tie-up stalls with C McPherson's saddle. Mr Sylvester pleaded guilty to a charge under AR209(2)(b) and was fined \$400. In issuing penalty Stewards were mindful that this was Mr Sylvester's first breach of the rule in approximately 30 years as a licenced trainer. Mr Sylvester was also advised that **Dukes County** would be disqualified from its 8th placing in this event in accordance with AR209(2)(a) and the placings were amended accordingly.

Tsambika – Stable representative Mr M Rowland reported that the mare, which was beaten 29L, has now been retired. Acting on this assurance no action was taken.

RACE 4: Norm Turner Electrical Class 2 Handicap 1280m

Oakfield Geronimo – On jumping was bumped on two occasions by *Tormund*, which was taken out by *Maxbux*, and became unbalanced as a consequence. Raced wide and without cover throughout the event. Over the concluding stages was unable to be ridden out when positioned close to the heels of *Cinderconi* (K Latham), which shifted in when inclined to lay in. K Latham was advised to exercise more care.

Cinderconi – Laid in under pressure in the home straight.

Deviate – Raced ungenerously with its head up in the early stages.

Tormund – Began awkwardly and bumped *Oakfield Geronimo*, then shortly after was checked when crowded by *Maxbux*, which shifted out abruptly. Held up for clear running in the early part of the straight and then laid in when placed under pressure over the final 300m.

Drusilla – Rider A Morgan reported that he was instructed to race prominently, however when the mare knuckled on jumping and lost ground he was obliged to settle towards the rear of the field.

Maxbux – Began awkwardly and shifted out abruptly.

RACE 5: Coolmore Denman Cup 1280m

The Gavel – Slow to begin.

Our Dasha – Began awkwardly. Raced keenly in the middle stages.

Syd's Footprints – Rider D McLellan stated that his mount travelled comfortably in the lead and he could offer no explanation for its failure to respond to his riding from the 500m. A post-race veterinary examination of the gelding revealed no abnormalities.

Cosmic Reign – Was declared a late withdrawal at 4:04pm by order of the Stewards after the gelding refused to be loaded into the barriers. Stewards ordered that all bets placed on **Cosmic Reign** be refunded in full and that all successful bets placed with bookmakers prior to 4:04pm be subject to the following deductions in the dollar on the face value of the ticket:

- 1st *Dual Escape* – 17c win, 20c place;
- 2nd *Eye On America* – 21c place.
- 3rd *I Wanna Be A Jeep* – 12c place.

Trainer Mr S Gleeson was told that in all of the circumstances a warning would be placed on the gelding's record.

Another Aan – Slow to begin.

Constantine – Slow to begin.

Denim Street – A veterinary examination of the mare, which got its off-hind leg up on the running board after being loaded, deemed it suitable to race.

RACE 6: The Denman Hotel Denman Dash – Benchmark 66 Handicap 900m

Fine Hero – Knuckled badly on jumping and lost ground (2L).

Mr Snowman – A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to be 3/5 lame in the off-fore leg. Trainer Mr B Cavanough was told that he would be required to furnish a veterinary clearance prior to **Mr Snowman** racing again.

Bullseye Score – Apprentice Y Lewis was reminded of her obligation to ride her mounts out fully to the winning post.

La La Loopsy – Held up for clear running until near the 250m.

Miss Gigi – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Accessory Diva – Began awkwardly, then shortly after was checked away from the heels of *Lonely Heart*.

RACE 7: 'Game On' Muswellbrook Benchmark 58 Handicap 1450m

My Zebrinka – Raced keenly in the middle stages.

Snatcha – On jumping was bumped on the hindquarter by *Time Stalker* and became unbalanced.

Master Of The Turf – Shifted out abruptly shortly after the start. Hung out under pressure over the final 150m.

Trajection – Shortly after the start was checked when crowded between *Time Stalker* and *Master Of The Turf*, which shifted out abruptly. Near the 1300m became awkwardly positioned close to the heels of *Master Of The Turf* and had to be steadied. Raced keenly in the middle stages.

Eureka Sky – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Dream Habit – Slow to begin.

Celtic Tiger – Slow to begin. Raced keenly and hung out throughout the early and middle stages.

Time Stalker – On jumping was buffeted between *Snatcha* and *Trajection*, which was taken out by *Master Of The Turf*. Raced keenly in the early and middle stages.

GENERAL:

Summary of whip use:

Stewards noted the following riders exceeded the permitted strikes of the whip prior to the 100m under AR132(7). Bearing in mind the totality of whip use, no action was taken.

Race 1	G Ryan (Mahogany Bay)	6 strikes.
Race 5	S Lisnyy (Dual Escape) A Morgan (Denim Street)	6 strikes. 6 strikes.

Swab samples were taken from all winners and *Sunday Special* (Race 1).

SUMMARY	
Fines:	Race 4: Trainer J Sylvester (Dukes County) – Person at fault in relation to horse not carrying correct weight (AR209(2)(b)) – \$400.
Reprimands:	Nil
Suspensions:	Nil
Bleeders:	Nil
Warnings:	Race 5: Cosmic Reign (trainer S Gleeson) – Refused to load.
Trials:	Nil
Certificates:	Race 6: Mr Snowman (trainer B Cavanough) – 3/5 lame in off-fore leg.
Fall/Injuries:	Nil
Tactics Notified:	Nil
Change of Colours:	Race 1: Bush Rambler – Yellow, purple chevrons and armbands. Race 2: Upper East Side – White cap. Race 7: Time Stalker – Navy blue and gold club's colours.
Change of Gear:	Nil
Follow up:	Nil