

STEWARDS REPORT

Manning Valley Race Club
TAREE RACECOURSE

Monday 14 January 2019

Weather: Fine
Track: Good (3)
Rail: Out 2m entire circumference

STEWARDS: D L Carr (Chairman), D M Greer and P Dombkins.

Supplementary Reports:

Port Macquarie – Tuesday 27 November 2018

RACE 3: Panthers Xmas Trees of Hope Maiden Handicap 1206m:

Werewolf - Stewards today continued their inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the catastrophic breakdown and subsequent euthanasia of **Werewolf** in the abovementioned race. Evidence was taken from stable foreman Mr C Hull, who provided veterinary and treatment records for the gelding, which showed that the gelding had no issues during its current preparation. Mr Hull stated that the gelding had pleased the stable leading into the event and they had no concerns with the gelding. A post-mortem urine sample did not show any evidence of prohibited substances. Stewards also considered a report from raceday veterinarian Dr A Owen, which detailed that **Werewolf** was humanely euthanised after sustaining a bilateral sesamoid fracture to its near-fore leg. After considering all of the evidence, the inquiry was concluded when Stewards were satisfied that there was no pre-existing injury which could have led or contributed to the gelding breaking down.

Wyong Trackwork – Saturday 12 January 2019

Miss Faith – Trainer Mr J Englebrecht reported that the mare bled from both nostrils during trackwork. Mr Englebrecht was told that as this was the first occasion **Miss Faith** would now incur the mandatory 3 month bar from racing under AR 53A.

Late Riding Changes:

As S Lisny was injured in a barrier incident at the Gosford race meeting on Friday 11 January 2019 the following rider substitutions were approved:

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| Race 1 | J Adams on Dual Escape |
| Race 2 | J Adams on Dragon's Flyer |
| Race 4 | J Adams on Grand Exit |
| Race 6 | T Wolfgram on Taken On Chance |
| Race 7 | A Layt on Danger Woman |

As J Hull was stood down due to dehydration following his ride in Race 3 the following rider substitutions were approved:

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| Race 4 | C O'Brien on Oakfield Poet |
| Race 6 | A Denby on Lips 'n' Lashes |

RACE 1: Winning Post Function Centre – Benchmark 66 Handicap 1250m:

Valbeata – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

Dual Escape – Laid out when placed under pressure from the 400m and then continued to lay out in the home straight.

Stilettoed Vixen – Slow to begin.

Port Gold – Leaving the 400m, when weakening, was steadied when crowded between *Valbeata* and *Dual Escape* (J Adams), which shifted out when inclined to lay out. J Adams was told to exercise more care. When questioned regarding the performance, apprentice W Peel stated that she was instructed to lead, however her mount did not show sufficient speed in the early stages to cross *Dual Escape*, despite her urgings, and was obliged to race outside that runner. She added that **Port Gold** never travelled comfortably at any stage, was a beaten horse as far out as the 600m and in her opinion the mare has come to the end of its preparation. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the mare to be 1/5 lame in the off-fore leg. Trainer Mr M Byers confirmed that **Port Gold** would now be spelled and acting on this assurance no action was taken.

Jackknife – A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to have bled from both nostrils. As this was the second occasion, trainer Mr J Bannister was told that the gelding would now incur the mandatory lifetime bar from racing under AR 53A(5).

RACE 2: XXXX Gold Maiden Handicap 1000m:

Dragon's Flyer – Began awkwardly.

Oakfield Target – Passing the 600m hung out across the heels of *Jest Magic* and had to be checked. Then continued to hang out for the remainder of the event, ran wider rounding the home turn and proved difficult to fully test in the straight.

Miss Devinci – On jumping was brushed by *Oakfield Target*, then shifted in abruptly.

Jest Magic – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event. Leaving the 200m, when inclined to lay in, had to be steadied and shifted out to avoid the heels of *Fearless Mila*, which shifted out slightly. Rider J Watkins pleaded guilty to a charge under AR 145 in that he returned to scale in excess of 0.5kg over his mount's allotted weight. J Watkins was fined \$200. In assessing penalty Stewards were satisfied that J Watkins' actions had not compromised his mount's finishing position, and were also mindful of the hot conditions, whereby his gear had absorbed a significant amount of perspiration, and his excellent record with regard to weight related matters.

Fearless Mila – Began awkwardly.

The Good The Bad – Slow to begin (2L).

Floss's Dream – Slow to begin, then shortly after the start had to be steadied away from the heels of *Miss Devinci*, which shifted in abruptly. Hung out rounding the turn from the 600m until straightening.

RACE 3: Hydra Hose Class 2 Handicap 1600m:

Wild Kingdom – When questioned regarding racing further forward, rider A Gibbons stated that he was instructed to settle his mount prominently from its wide barrier if it began well. He stated that after beginning well, and when his mount was caught very wide in the early stages,

he rode it along to assume the lead near the 1300m, where his mount travelled comfortably. Stable representative Ms C Marsham confirmed the instructions and was notified of her obligation to notify the Stewards of any change in riding tactics.

Mark My Word – When questioned regarding the performance, rider J Hull stated that he was instructed to settle in a forward position and after being slow to begin he rode his mount along, however it failed to muster sufficient speed, was quickly crossed by runners drawn wider and as a consequence settled towards the rear of the field. J Hull added that his mount never travelled comfortably at any stage, was under pressure as far out as the 800m and he could offer no explanation for its failure to respond to his riding. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the gelding to be 1/5 lame in the off-fore leg. Trainer Mr B Cavanough advised that in his opinion **Mark My Word** was not suited by being ridden in a rearward position. Mr Cavanough was told that he would be required to furnish a veterinary clearance for **Mark My Word** prior to the gelding racing again. Following this event J Hull was found to be suffering from dehydration and was stood down from his remaining engagements.

Victory In Paris – On jumping was bumped by *Charlie's Law*, which shifted in.

Charlie's Law – Passing the 200m was checked when crowded between *Komachi Force* and *I Am Baymax* (M Bennett), which shifted out when not clear. M Bennett was reprimanded under AR 137(a). When questioned regarding her riding, apprentice L Day stated that as the gelding has shown a tendency to overrace in races over shorter distance she was under specific instructions not to ride her mount along out of the barriers as it was stepping up to 1600m today and she had anticipated settling midfield. She stated that after receiving some crowding in the early stages her mount commenced to race keenly and her immediate focus at that point in time was to obtain cover to assist it to settle and for this reason she allowed *I Am Baymax* to cross her mount near the 1300m. She stated that once positioned with cover her mount raced more tractably and travelled comfortably throughout the middle stages, however when *I Am Baymax* commenced to give ground from the 600m her mount became held up behind that runner and lost ground. She stated that when *Komachi Force* shifted out slightly approaching the 500m she anticipated a run developing between that runner and *I Am Baymax* and attempted to improve, however when *Splash Of Lime* improved to the outside of *Komachi Force* and maintained a tight line the run did not fully develop and she had to check her mount. She stated that her mount then continued to lose ground when held up behind *I Am Baymax* and approaching the 400m received some crowding when *Syrah* was taken in by *Komachi Force*, and leaving the 400m she was again obliged to steady her mount when crowded by *Victory In Paris*, which shifted out slightly. She added that shortly after straightening **Charlie's Law** improved onto the heels of *I Am Baymax*, shifted out abruptly and bumped *Komachi Force* and shortly after was able to establish clear running between those two runners, however passing the 200m had to be checked when crowded by *I Am Baymax*. She further added that she was able to place her mount under pressure for a short distance after this incident, however approaching the 50m her mount had to be steadied after improving onto the heels of *Splash Of Lime*, which struck interference and lost ground, and as a consequence **Charlie's Law** went to the line essentially untested. Stable representative Ms C Marsham confirmed the instructions. Apprentice Day was told that whilst Stewards accepted that from the 600m her mount was badly held up behind *I Am Baymax* and inside *Komachi Force* and had no opportunity to improve, she should have made more effort in the early stages to maintain her position inside the unfancied runner *I Am Baymax*, which would have prevented that horse from crossing her mount and would have allowed her mount to trail *Wild Kingdom*, which was a more fancied runner.

I Am Baymax – Rider M Bennett reported that his mount hung out throughout the event.

Komachi Force – Slow to begin. On two occasions near the 200m was bumped by *Charlie's Law*.

Splash Of Lime – Prior to the declaration of correct weight connections of the 3rd placed mare requested to view the Stewards footage of the home straight to ascertain whether there were grounds to lodge an objection against *Takarakka* being placed 2nd. When connections were of the view that there were insufficient grounds, and Stewards agreed, correct weight was declared. J Watkins (*Takarakka*) pleaded guilty to a charge of careless riding under AR 137(a) in that he permitted his mount to shift out near the 50m when insufficiently clear of **Splash Of Lime**, which lost its rightful running and had to be checked to avoid the heels of *Takarakka*. J Watkins' licence to ride in races was suspended for a period to commence on Monday 21 January 2019 and to expire on Sunday 27 January 2019, on which day he may ride. As a consequence **Splash Of Lime** was unable to be tested over the final 50m of the event.

Valleseco – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event. Approaching the 200m, when weakening, was hampered by *Komachi Force*, which was taken out by *Charlie's Law*.

Field Helmet – For a short distance approaching the 100m became held up on the heels of the weakening *Wild Kingdom* and had to be shifted out to continue into clear running.

Syrah – Approaching the 1500m was steadied when crowded between *Charlie's Law* and *Takarakka* (J Watkins), which shifted in when not clear. J Watkins was reprimanded under AR 137(a). Approaching the 400m was steadied when crowded between *Charlie's Law* and *Komachi Force* (B Hodder), which shifted in after becoming awkwardly positioned close to the heels of the weakening *Valleseco*. B Hodder was advised to exercise more care.

Waiheke Island – From its wide barrier was shifted in behind runners in the early stages. Rounding the home turn, when held up, was steadied when momentarily crowded by *Charlie's Law*, which was taken in slightly by *Komachi Force*.

RACE 4: De Bortoli Wines Maiden Plate 1250m:

Ausbred Trump – Slow to begin.

Nuclear Burst – Shortly after the start was crowded between *Swinger* and *Peggy's Time*, which shifted out.

Pullman Brown – Change of tactics: To be ridden conservatively from the wide barrier – Settled midfield.

Swinger – On jumping was crowded between *Oakfield Empire* and *Nuclear Burst*, which was taken out by *Peggy's Time*.

Oakfield Empire – M Bennett was permitted to ride the filly at 0.5kg over its allotted weight of 55.5kg.

Secret Lago – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

RACE 5: Hannam Vale Cup 15 March Benchmark 58 Handicap 2000m:

Chalcedony – Slow to begin. Rounding the home turn was momentarily held up behind the weakening *Stanzza*.

Raining On Sunday – Raced wide and without cover until near the 1100m. A Layt (*Miss Nellie*) pleaded guilty to a charge of careless riding under AR 137(a) in that passing the 600m he permitted his mount to shift out when insufficiently clear of **Raining On Sunday**, which had to be checked to avoid the heels of *Miss Nellie*. A Layt's licence to ride in races was suspended for a period to commence on Wednesday 23 January 2019 and to expire on Monday 28

January 2019, on which day he may ride. A post-race veterinary examination of the mare revealed no abnormalities.

Stanza – Raced keenly in the early stages.

RACE 6: tab.com.au Class 3 Handicap 1000m:

Patriot – Was declared a late withdrawal at 11:12am acting on veterinary advice that the gelding was pricked when being re-shod this morning and punctured the sole of its near-fore hoof. Trainer Mr J Sprague was told that he would be required to furnish a veterinary clearance for **Patriot** prior to the gelding racing again.

Gordon's Leap – When questioned regarding the performance rider A Gibbons stated that after being slow to begin his mount settled at the rear of the field and when the tempo throughout the early and middle stages was fast his mount was under pressure to maintain contact with the field. He stated that rounding the tight turn from the 600m his mount struggled to gain its balance and became under heavy pressure to maintain its position, however when shifted to the outside of *Taken On Chance* near the 500m his mount was able to balance up and he was pleased with the manner in which it improved into the race rounding the home turn. He added that when placed under full pressure shortly after straightening his mount responded well, however its condition gave out over the final 100m and in all of the circumstances he was not disappointed with its performance, as in his opinion **Gordon's Leap** will derive fitness benefit from today's run and will be much better suited in races over further distance on bigger tracks. A post-race veterinary examination revealed no abnormalities.

Invincible Tammy – When questioned regarding the performance, apprentice L Kilner stated that the mare travelled well until the 800m, where it became under pressure to maintain its position behind the leaders and in her opinion it raced like a tired horse after a taxing preparation that included two float trips to the Sydney metropolitan area. A post-race veterinary examination revealed the mare to have lost its off-hind plate in running, with no other abnormalities detected. Trainer Mr J Shelton reported that a veterinary examination on return to his stables revealed the mare to be lame in the off-hind leg and it will be immediately spelled. Acting on this assurance no action was taken.

Odds Or Evens – Slow to begin, then was shifted in behind runners in the early stages from its wide barrier.

Too Easy Bro – Slow to begin. Hung in throughout the early and middle stages.

Taken On Chance – Slow to begin.

I'll Take Money – Raced wide and without cover throughout the event.

RACE 7: MVRC Conference Packages Class 2 Handicap 1300m:

Found Out – Slow to begin.

Salty Rain – Slow to begin.

Monaco Sniper – Correct weight was delayed to allow connections of the 2nd placed gelding to view the Stewards footage to ascertain whether there were grounds to lodge an objection against *Eyebea Danser* being declared the winner. When connections were satisfied that no grounds existed, and Stewards were similarly satisfied, correct weight was declared. Raced ungenerously in the early stages and near the 1100m got its head up when being steadied away from the heels of *Exdream* (A Gibbons), which shifted in when not quite clear. A Gibbons

was told to ensure he is two lengths clear of other runners when shifting ground. *Monaco Sniper* then continued to race ungenerously throughout the middle stages.

Crystal Kingdom – Slow to begin, then shortly after was hampered by *Monaco Sniper*, which shifted in. Held up rounding the home turn.

Dia Vernon – When questioned regarding his mount's racing manners, rider C O'Brien stated that his mount failed to concentrate in the early stages and when *Danger Woman* shifted in to a position to his mount's outside near the 1100m **Dia Vernon** took fright, shifted in abruptly, became badly unbalanced and lost significant ground. C O'Brien added that when *Found Out* improved to his mount's outside near the 600m it again became unbalanced and lost ground and in his opinion **Dia Vernon** would be suited with the re-application of blinkers, which would allow it to be more focussed in its races. Trainer Mr T Howlett agreed with C O'Brien and advised he would reapply blinkers to the gelding's gear prior to its next race start. Mr Howlett was told that a warning would be recorded against **Dia Vernon** regarding its racing manners.

Danger Woman – Hung in in the early part of the home straight.

Advalady – Raced wide and without cover until near the 700m.

Cosmic Energy – On arrival at the barriers apprentice M Weir expressed concerns with her mount's action. **Cosmic Energy** was subsequently declared a late withdrawal at 5:45pm when a veterinary examination found the gelding to be lame in the off-fore leg. Stewards ordered that all bets placed on **Cosmic Energy** be refunded in full and that all bets placed prior to 5:45pm be subject to the following deductions in the dollar on the face value of the ticket:

- 1st *Eyebea Danser* – 0 cents win, 1 cent place;
- 2nd *Monaco Sniper* – 1 cent place;
- 3rd *Danger Woman* – 1 cent place.

Trainer Mr T Higgins was told that he would be required to furnish a veterinary clearance for **Cosmic Energy** prior to the gelding racing again.

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.

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| Race 2 | J Watkins (Jest Magic) | 8 strikes prior to 100m |
| Race 3 | J Watkins (Takarokka) | 8 strikes prior to 100m |
| Race 7 | T Wolfgram (Monaco Sniper) | 6 strikes prior to 100m |
| Race 7 | L Cumberland (Crystal Kingdom) | 6 strikes prior to 100m |

General:

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

Race 1: Stilettoed Vixen.

Race 3: Takarokka, Charlie's Law.

Race 5: Chalcedony, Raining On Sunday, Miss Nellie, El Casco (2).

SUMMARY

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| Fines: | Race 2: J Watkins (Jest Magic) – Weigh in overweight (AR 145) – \$200. |
| Reprimands: | Race 3: J Watkins (Takarakka) – Careless riding (AR 137(a)). Race 3: M Bennett (I Am Baymax) – Careless riding (AR 137(a)). |
| Suspensions: | Race 3: J Watkins (Takarakka) – Careless riding (AR 137(a)) – 21/1/19-27/1/19 on which day he may ride. Race 5: A Layt (Miss Nellie) – Careless riding (AR 137(a)) – 23/1/19-28/1/19 on which day he may ride. |
| Warnings: | Race 7: Dia Vernon (trainer T Howlett) – Racing manners. |
| Bleeders: | <i>Supplementary reports:</i> Miss Faith (trainer J Englebrecht) – 1 st occasion – 3 month bar from racing (AR 53A(4)). Race 1: Jackknife (trainer J Bannister) – 2 nd occasion – Lifetime bar from racing (AR 53A(5)). |
| Trials: | Nil. |
| Certificates: | Race 3: Mark My Word (trainer B Cavanaugh) – 1/5 lame in off-fore leg. Race 6: Patriot (trainer J Sprague) – Punctured sole of near-fore hoof. Race 7: Cosmic Energy (trainer T Higgins) – Lame in off-fore leg. |
| Falls/Injuries: | Nil. |