

HARNESS RACING STEWARDS REPORT

CLUB: DEVONPORT HARNESS RACING CLUB

DATE: FRIDAY 30 JUNE 2017

TRACK: GOOD

WEATHER: FINE

STEWARDS:

D FARQUHARSON (CHAIRMAN)

A CROWTHER

B BAUDINETTE

J AINSCOW

G GRIFFIN (STARTER)

VETERINARY SURGEON: Dr J McKenna

Trainers with multiple runners engaged in any race were questioned as to their intended driving tactics.

RACE 1 – HARDINGS HOTMIX MOBILE – 2297 METRES

Racing towards the front straight with a lap remaining OUR MAXICAM (Jack Laugher) had to be steadied by its driver when MOBI DOC (Brady Woods) shifted from a position to the inside. At a subsequent inquiry Brady Woods was reprimanded for careless driving under AR168(1)(a) and advised to use more care when changing position.

A post-race swab sample was taken from TIBYTOA, winner of the event.

RACE 2 – AUSTSTAR FREIGHT DISTRIBUTION MOBILE – 1930 METRES

A false start was declared on the first attempt when BURITON BAILEY NZ (Jack Laugher) galloped during the score up resulting in interference to PUSHKIN NZ (Natalee Emery) which was drawn on the second line, and resulted in both horses locking wheels and driver Jack Laugher being momentarily dislodged.

Due to the false start and track maintenance having to be carried out thereafter, this race commenced ten minutes after the advertised starting time.

At the second attempt of a start, BURITON BAILEY NZ began safely. Connections were advised that BURITON BAILEY NZ would be excluded from the barrier draw in future mobile starts.

Stewards opened an inquiry into an incident that occurred in the home straight with a lap remaining. SHANGHAI KNIGHT NZ (Steven Davis) which was racing in a one wide line and under pressure, shifted outwards when being urged by its driver and, in doing so, allowed the stablemate IMA GINGER ROGERS (Rohan Hadley) which was racing in a midfield marker peg position, sufficient room to move away from the marker pegs and into free running. Evidence was taken from driver Steven Davis who explained that SHANGHAI KNIGHT NZ was under pressure at that point of the race and that he was driving the gelding forward to remain competitive in the race. Evidence was also taken from Natalee Emery (PUSHKIN NZ)

and Rohan Hadley the driver of IMA GINGER ROGERS that ultimately was successful in winning this race. Subsequently, Steven Davis was charged pursuant to Rule 240(a)(i) by driving in a manner that unlawfully advantaged IMA GINGER ROGERS by providing that mare sufficient room to be moved away from a marker peg position and into clear running. Mr Davis pleaded not guilty to the charge however, after further consideration, Stewards found Mr Davis in breach of the rule and his licence to drive in races was suspended for a period of three (3) months. Stewards directed this term of suspension commence immediately.

RACE 3 – BOTRA CLAIMING NOVICE DRIVERS HEAT ONE – 2297 METRES

GUESSTAMATE (Matthew Cooper) galloped entering the front straight with a lap remaining for no apparent reason but quickly settled back into a pace. Connections were advised that GUESSTAMATE would be placed on its last chance to race truly.

RACE 4 – BOTRA CLAIMING NOVICE DRIVERS HEAT TWO – 2297 METRES

Stewards ordered a veterinary examination of FIRST ELVA be carried out after connections reported that the mare had down in the float en-route to the course. FIRST ELVA was passed fit to take its place in the field.

SOPHIAS ANGEL (Samantha Freeman) galloped as the start was effected which caused STUCKFAST (Samantha Gangell) which was drawn directly behind, to be checked. Connections were advised that SOPHIAS ANGEL will be excluded from the barrier draw in future mobile starts.

In the back straight on the final occasion JIMMY DE PANDA (Jack Laughner) galloped without interference, which caused MASTER DOC (Hannah van Dongen) to be severely checked. Connections of JIMMY DE PANDA were advised that the gelding would be placed on its last chance to race truly.

STUCKFAST which moved out three wide in the middle stages and ultimately led the race, compounded badly in the concluding stages to finish a distant last. Connections were advised that the gelding would be placed on its last chance to race competitively.

SKETCH (A Woods) which was in position when the start was effected, will be re-included in the barrier draw in future mobile start races.

RACE 5 – JOHN MCKENNA RACE NIGHT VET PACE – 2297 METRES

FOUR SMART ACES was inspected by the veterinary surgeon prior to the start of the race and cleared to take its place in the field.

FOUR SMART ACES (Justin Howlett) had a tendency to hang out in the score up.

EBONYALLSTARZZZ (Rohan Hadley) hung out in the score up.

LORD JONES NZ (Natalee Emery) pulled hard when racing in a position three back on the marker pegs.

Stewards inquired into an incident which occurred racing into the back straight on the final occasion where LORD JONES NZ contacted the near side sulky wheel of EBONYALLSTARZZZ resulting in that mare sustaining a flat near side tyre to the sulky and LORD JONES NZ galloping and losing valuable ground. It was established that LORD JONES NZ when racing three back on the marker pegs had a tendency to pull hard throughout the race and EBONYALLSTARZZZ, which was racing behind the leader, also had a tendency to pull hard. Driver Rohan Hadley attempted to shift EBONYALLSTARZZZ wider entering the back straight on the final occasion however, he was unsuccessful in this manoeuvre and, as a result,

LORD JONES NZ which was racing keenly, had to be restrained off the back of EBONYALLSTARZZZ and contacted the wheel. Stewards deemed this to be a racing incident and no further action was taken.

FOUR SMART ACES tired over the concluding stages and the connections of this horse were advised it would be placed on its last chance to race competitively. A post-race veterinary examination of FOUR SMART ACES failed to reveal any abnormalities.

RACE 6 – COLLINS HOMES MOBILE – 1930 METRES

KEEP PLAYING (Todd Rattray) was out of position at the starting point and galloped soon after the start was effected, resulting in the gelding losing valuable ground and taking no competitive part in the race. Connections were advised that KEEP PLAYING will be excluded from the barrier draw in future mobile starts.

RACE 7 – MAXFIELD DRILLING PACE – 2297 METRES

Racing into the first turn after the start, FIERY TURBULENCE (Brady Woods) had to be checked by its driver when KARALTA BOOMER (Wade Rattray) which was racing to its outside, shifted in. At a subsequent inquiry it was established that the near side sulky wheel of KARALTA BOOMER contacted the offside fore leg of FIERY TURBULENCE when KARALTA BOOMER was being driven forward by its driver. Driver Wade Rattray subsequently pleaded guilty to a charge under Rule 163(1)(a)(iii) for causing interference to FIERY TURBULENCE and his licence to drive in races was suspended for three race dates, commencing midnight 9 July 2017 and expiring midnight 21 July 2017.

A post-race swab sample was taken from KARALTA BOOMER, winner of the event.

GENERAL

Devonport Harness Racing Club – 25 June 2017 - Race 4

Stewards opened an inquiry into the driving tactics adopted by Jack Laugher (SHANGHAI KNIGHT). SHANGHAI KNIGHT galloped at the start and, as the field progressed into the back straight, the gelding raced one out two back however, was moved forward by its driver in an attempt to gain a position without cover. SHANGHAI KNIGHT was unable to gain this position and, as a result, was obliged to race three wide for the remainder of the race before tiring in the concluding stages. In evidence, Mr Laugher stated that he was advised by trainer Mr Steve Davis that SHANGHAI KNIGHT is a one-paced horse and does not have the ability to sprint quickly in the final sections of a race. He further stated that he was instructed that SHANGHAI KNIGHT was one-paced and a more forward position would be more advantageous to the gelding. He stated that when Mr Dylan Ford (CROMAC JAMIE) was restraining in the back straight on the first occasion, that this may be an indication to him that the position without cover was available. However, Mr Ford resisted the challenge by SHANGHAI KNIGHT and remained in the position without cover. Mr Laugher further stated that SHANGHAI KNIGHT had chewed through its tongue-tie when racing keenly and part of that tongue-tie had lodged in the back of the gelding's throat which may have contributed to the gelding's overall performance. Trainer Steve Davis supported the view that SHANGHAI KNIGHT is a one-paced horse and that its tongue-tie had failed during the race. After giving consideration to the evidence tendered, Stewards advised Mr Laugher that only for some mitigation in the circumstances of this race, that no action would be taken against his licence. He was further advised that a repetition of a drive of this standard would lead to possible charges being laid against him for driving what, in the opinion of the Stewards, was an ill-judged race.

SUMMARY	
REPRIMANDS	BRADY WOODS – AR168(1)(a) – SHIFTING HORSE WIDER (CARELESS)
SUSPENSIONS	STEVEN DAVIS – AR240(a)(i) – 3 MONTHS COMMENCING MIDNIGHT 30/6/17, EXPIRING MIDNIGHT 30/9/17 WADE RATTRAY – AR163(1)(a)(iii) – 3 RACE DATES COMMENCING MIDNIGHT 9/7/17, EXPIRING MIDNIGHT 21/7/17
HORSE ACTIONS	BURITON BAILEY NZ – ODM SOPHIAS ANGEL – ODM KEEP PLAYING – ODM

PRE-RACE SWAB SUMMARY	
Race 1	TENFOUR LORD STARK NZ
Race 2	BURITON BAILEY NZ SUTTER MAN
Race 3	COMEON HOWZAT NZ MASTER CHARLIE
Race 4	HAZEL GRANT JIMMY DE PANDA
Race 5	MAKING MY MARK MARTYS FOR REAL
Race 6	MOLLY MALONES
Race 7	FIERY TURBULENCE MCADEM

POST-RACE SWAB SUMMARY	
Race 1	TIBYTOA
Race 7	KARALTA BOOMER

HUMAN SWAB SUMMARY	
	Taylor Ford

DAVID FARQUHARSON
CHAIRMAN

ORI has recently reviewed its Harness policies. To view the updated policies go to:
http://www.racing.tas.gov.au/harness_racing/policies_and_rules - *ORI Integrity Policy Manual*