

STEWARDS RULING
May 3, 2017

Stewards: Gregg Morris
Tad Zimmerman
Gus Brown

Licensee: Trevor McKenna

After the Maryland Hunt Cup on April 29, 2017 the Stewards were notified by former jockey J.W. Delozier that jockey Trevor McKenna had been observed punching his horse GREAT HALO in the head and neck after being unseated when the horse refused at the 3rd fence in the race. Delozier was called to the Stewards stand and he informed the Stewards that he told McKenna to stop hitting the horse. He stated that McKenna then became combative towards him. An unknown spectator also approached Steward Gregg Morris later and told him that McKenna had punched the horse, that he had been attending the Hunt Cup for 42 years and had “never seen anything like it.” The Stewards met with McKenna after the race and McKenna admitted that he had punched his horse. By way of explanation he stated that he had been preparing for this race for a year and that he was very frustrated and angry when his horse refused to jump the 3rd fence.

Pursuant to NSA Rule 5.2.B.3 which states: *“The Stewards have power to regulate and control the conduct of all officials, and of all owners, trainers, riders, grooms and other persons attendant on horses, as well as employees of the Association”*;

There is zero tolerance for the physical abuse of horses at NSA regulated meets.

The Stewards, based on the testimony of numerous witnesses and Mr. McKenna, find jockey Trevor McKenna in violation of NSA Rule 11.1.F which states: *“While on Association grounds, no person shall subject any animal to any form of cruelty, mistreatment, neglect or abuse, or permit any animal under his control, custody or supervision to suffer any such cruelty, mistreatment, neglect or abuse”*, and NSA Rule 5.2.B.15 which states: *“The Stewards shall take notice of any conduct which appears not to be in the best interests of racing, with or without complaint thereof”*.

Because of his egregious conduct, jockey Trevor McKenna’s license is immediately suspended and this matter is hereby referred by the Stewards to the NSA Stewards Advisory Committee for further review and a hearing to determine the ultimate penalty.