

# Stewards Report

**Race Meet:** Genesee Valley Hunt Races

**Date:** October 8, 2022

**Stewards:** Charles Fleischmann  
Rug Howard  
Sam Randazzo  
Doris Paxson, Safety Steward

**Weather:** Cool and windy,  
periodic clouds

**Course:** Compaction meter broken

**Clerk of Scales:** Meg Lloyd

**Starter:** Bill Lloyd

## **Official Actions:**

The Safety Steward reported no issues.

There were three sanctioned races which were the sixth, seventh and ninth races on the card.

**Seventh Race:** The jockey of IT'S NOTHING rode in colors that did not match the colors in the program. The owner Sally Reid and trainer Kathy Neilson asserted that the colors in the program, overnights, and PPLs were wrong and the owner will contact the NSA to get the issue corrected. IT'S NOTHING was distanced, pulled up.

MERCOEUR ridden by Freddie Procter, while well in front, went off course by missing the beacon before the last fence. He did not continue racing. When questioned, Procter had no excuse and apologized, pointing out that this was the first time he had ever been off-course and he had no intention of repeating the action. He was fined \$250 and said he would not appeal the fine.

**Ninth Race:** OUR LEGEND was scratched by the trainer at approximately 0857.

GOODOLDTIMES was randomly selected for testing.

POCKET TALK lost rider Theresa Dimpfel at the last fence. She was cleared by the Course Physician, Dr. Mirabelli.

**Official Comments:** The "Hunt Races and Fall Festival" was well attended and well run with non-sanctioned races interspersed with sanctioned racing. The volunteer numbers were impressive as was the organization.

The races in 2021 were run under flood conditions which left the course with deep hoof prints. As pointed out in the overnight report, the area experienced a lengthy drought through the summer and up to late September which made aerating less effective than would have been expected. The course was aerated in September and again in the week before racing in addition to hand filling. These aerations did allow the little rain that they had last week to soften the ground and to grow the grass as the report indicated.

At the jockey's meeting, the riders expressed concerns about areas of the running track and the stewards approved their intentions to not necessarily follow the shortest way around in order to use the best footing available.

There were no complaints after the first race regarding the track footing.

Management understands the footing problem and will be addressing it immediately following the races in order to have the course smooth for next year's racing.

There was no dedicated exam tent. The course physician used one of the ambulances for his one exam but would have used part of the female jockey's tent if the ambulance option had not been available.

The top rails of the post-and-rail fences were in deep rubber cups. The top rail was loosely roped to the rail below it such that if it was knocked out it would drop down on the back side of the fence. All fences were jumped more than once per race. During the race, each fence had a patrol judge who could and did replace the rail when it was knocked out and before the race returned to that fence. All fences were well brushed on the takeoff side or protected with a ground rail. There were no fallers and the horses did respect the solid coops that were also part of the course.