

Steward's Report

Race Meeting: Winterthur Races

Date: May 7, 2023

**Stewards: Charles Fleischmann
Gregg Morris
Cook Edens**

Weather: Started warm and still. Ended overcast and breezy

**Steward's Secretary: William Gallo
Harper McVey**

Course Condition: Good, smooth with good grass cover

Compaction: 9.5 to 10

Clerk of Scales: Barry Watson

Moisture: 8

Starter: Burling Vannote

Official Actions:

The stewards considered what steps to take if horses and/or riders on the first circuit fell on the turn after fence 4 where the course narrows somewhat. A fall with several lost riders had happened there in the past but the horses and riders had all gotten up and off the course before the race came around again. EMT and equine ambulance people were consulted on how to make their presence in that area as narrow/linear as possible in the event of a similar fall on the first circuit but with injuries requiring in situ medical or veterinary attention. A process to stop the race was worked out with the outriders in the event that the turn was too blocked to allow safe racing around that restricted area. This possible event and resultant process was communicated to the jockeys at the jockey's meeting, and to patrol judges and outriders at the officials meeting.

The horse City of Grace, 3rd race #3, was not microchipped. The horse was adequately identified without the chip. Trainer Casey Pinkard will get the horse chipped.

Arch Kingsley called Jeff Witmer to say he was stuck in traffic. He arrived at 10:15 am and was vet checked and had lasix by 10:38

The jockey's meeting was delayed about 10 minutes to accommodate several jockeys who were in traffic

First Race: #3, Rythmia, was randomly selected for testing. Connor Tierney rode the # 7 horse Shaka. #8, Vincent Van Gogo pulled up after the 10th fence with a minor laceration to his stifle. He was sound coming off the course.

Second Race: #3, Cause for Pardon, and #4, Lap of the Gods, were scratched. #5, Brave Deacon, and #2, Shooting the Breeze, were almost two fences behind the front two horses four fences from home. #4, Brave Deacon, pulled up after the 14th. #2, Shooting the Breeze, finished a distant third and walked up the stretch to finish after barely getting over the last fence

After the race, the stewards met with Gerard Galligan to enquirer why he continued on in the race when he was distanced and ultimately some 244 lengths behind the first two finishers. The stewards asked if he had been at the jockey's meeting where it was emphasized that in the case of a horse being distanced or out of touch with the field that horse should be pulled up. He acknowledged being at the meeting and hearing the steward's instructions but thought that someone with his experience should know the difference between a tired horse and a horse that just wasn't interested, which the horse he was on, Shooting the Breeze, was not. He said that he had told the trainer after the race that the horse was not inclined to race anymore and that he was now retired from racing after the performance.

After deliberation, the stewards decided that his performance was not in the best interest of racing and was in contravention of Rule 6.4.C.6 which states "The rider of every horse shall take all reasonable and permissible measures throughout the race to ensure that his horse is given a full opportunity to win or obtain the best possible placing, unless the horse is exhibiting difficulty in finishing the race, which should prompt the rider to ease the horse to protect his welfare." He was fined \$200.

Third Race: No incidents

Fourth Race: #6 Transit and #9 Prince Khorzan were scratched. No incidents.

Other comments:

The course was in good condition with good cover and the day ran uneventfully to all outward appearances. It was appreciated that there were enough qualified patrol judges to put one at each fence. The only suggestion would be that the top rails on the timber fences be better secured as they had a tendency to bounce if they did not split when hit

Respectfully,

Charles Fleischmann, Steward